Hafa Adai!

EAD holders want PUA eligibility to be clarified. PAGE 5
Over $7K bail set for woman who threatened man with a knife . PAGE 6

75¢

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXX, Issue No. 203

www.saipantribune.com | TUESDAY OCTOBER 13, 2020 | www.facebook.com/saipantribune

Halloween, cemetery visits still on

By JUSTINE NAUTA
justine_nauta@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Villagomez

COVID-19 has stopped many events this year but the traditional gathering in cemeteries on Nov. 1 and 2 to honor departed loved ones, and the spookiest time of the year, Halloween, are still a go, as long as everyone complies with COVID-19 restrictions.

People participating in All Souls' Day, All Saints' Day, and Halloween are required to follow all COVID-19 protocols, which include wearing a mask, social distancing, and washing of hands.

Warren Villagomez, chairman of the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, acknowledged, though, that the

See CEMETERY on Page 4

Saipan hit with islandwide power outage

By JUSTINE NAUTA
justine_nauta@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

An electrical fault in one of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s feeders caused an islandwide power outage at 3:38am yesterday and was fully restored some seven hours later, at 10:25am. The power outage also affected

See OUTAGE on Page 4

21-day early voting for Saipan, NI starts today

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 21-day early voting for Saipan and Northern Islands in this year's general elections will start today, Tuesday, at four designated polling places.

Igitol

Commonwealth Election Commission administrative officer Kayla Igitol said yesterday that they've already set up the polling sites and that they're ready for today's early voting.

See VOTING on Page 4

Finance ready for 2nd stimulus package

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Finance Secretary David DLG Atalig, who remains optimistic that a second stimulus package is coming soon, assured that the department is ready and prepared to release

See FINANCE on Page 4

RESTORATION PROJECT CONTINUES

Workers of the Jeida Guam Construction use a front and backhoe loader to pick up scraps of concrete from the road leading to the Guma Hustisia and Department of Public Safety as part of Docomo Pacific Saipan's Restoration Project, which aims to repair damaged parts of the road in several locations on Saipan. One of the workers on this project stated that they began repairing this particular site in the morning and will most likely be finished within a few hours. Docomo Pacific started this project last month.

NEIL FAMA

AT A GLANCE

As of 6pm, Oct. 11, 2020

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	3,078	0	3,078
Recovered	2,071	0	2,071
Active	947	0	947
Deaths	60	0	60
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			54,685

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	77	0	77
Deaths	2	0	2
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			19,345*

*Total count includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. With guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CHCC has opted not to report active and recovered cases. The community-based testing has been temporarily suspended.

Source: Joint Information Center – Guam, Commonwealth Health Care Corp.

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:
- **Red:** Least safe
- **Orange**
- **Yellow**
- **Blue**
- **Green:** Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

INSIDE

BUSINESS
Michael Jang wants to introduce the 15-year-old Imoya Restaurant to the younger generation.

PAGE 11

NATION
President Donald Trump is running out of time to recover from a series of self-inflicted setbacks.

PAGE 12

ASIA
India's coronavirus toll crossed 7 million on Sunday with a number of new cases dipping.

PAGE 13

SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

GOT A NEWS TIP? TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OCT 13, 2020 – NOV 2, 2020 EARLY VOTING TO NOV 3, 2020 GENERAL ELECTION
VOTE FOR YOUR NMI DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES – UP & DOWN THE BALLOT
VOTE FOR KILILI & YOUR INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES FROM ROTA SEN. PAUL MANGLONA #2, & REP. DONALD MANGLONA #1
THIS GOVERNMENT BELONGS TO ALL OF US
& WE HAVE THE POWER TO CHANGE IT
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CNMI The People's Party
DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Local

$1.79M supports water projects in freely associated states

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Trump Administration has announced $1,786,000 in assistance to extend a collaboration between the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs and the Bureau of Reclamation to provide additional technical assistance for water projects and drought resiliency in the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

"Interior is proud of the collaboration that has strengthened our partnership with the utilities in the freely associated states and identified resources to help address challenges," said Interior assistant secretary, Insular and International Affairs, Douglas W. Domenech. "We have also begun to extend the same expertise to the territories. This collaboration with Reclamation will benefit all people in the islands, by providing the utilities in the insular areas with reliable expertise in water distribution and water resource management."

Domenech

"I am pleased to join Assistant Secretary Domenech in announcing this additional technical assistance for the freely associated states," said Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Brenda Burman. "I am proud of the work that Reclamation is doing to improve water availability and support the special relationship that the United States has with the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau."

As announced earlier this week, Reclamation completed a hydraulic computer model and GIS database for the Majuro Sewer and Water Company. As announced in August, Reclamation also completed a preliminary assessment of 16 water treatment plants for the Palau Public Utilities Corp. in the Republic of Palau. Both reports are available on the OIA website at: https://www.doi.gov/oia/reports.

Initial plans to perform a review of the Nanpil Hydropower Plant on Pohnpei in the Federated States of Micronesia had to be postponed due to travel restrictions imposed during the on-going COVID-19 pandemic.

First announced by Interior Secretary David Bernhardt at the August 2019 Pacific Islands Forum Partners Dialogue and serving as a testimony to the close relationship that the United States shares with each of the freely associated states, Interior's Office of Insular Affairs has already provided $400,000 in funding leveraged with expertise from Interior's Bureau of Reclamation to support clean water and utility efficiency in the freely associated states. This additional $1,786,000 will extend the collaboration between the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs and the Bureau of Reclamation to provide additional technical assistance for water projects and drought resiliency in the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

These three sovereign Pacific Island nations, also known as the freely associated states, each have a strong relationship with the United States through a Compact of Free Association. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net

INVITATION FOR BID (IFB)

(This is ad is paid for NMHC with HUD funds)

Amendment No. 1

NMHC IFB 2020-011

BID SUBMISSION DATE & TIME:
~~October 15, 2020~~ October 22, 2020, 10:00 a.m.

NMHC Rota Field Office Rehabilitation

Project package will be available on September 14, 2020, at the NMHC website at www.nmhcgov.net by clicking on the "Procurement" menu tab.

The provisions of the NMHC Procurement regulations, NMIAC 100-60-725 AND 100-60-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid conference will be held via video teleconferencing on September 22, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. through Zoom Video Communications. Bidders will be provided the video teleconferencing link on the NMHC website at www.nmhcgov.net by clicking on the "Procurement" menu tab. Bidders are encouraged to email the Procurement Officer of their intent to participate in the pre-bid meeting. Failure to attend the Mandatory pre-bid conference will be considered a non-responsive bidder.

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager/Procurement Officer, at (670)234-6866/9447 or email at officemanager@nmhcgov.net during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director

/s/ Vinney Atalig-Hocog
Chairman, NMHC Board of Directors

Torres to IPI, CLC: Just follow the law

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

If Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC's requests to amend the casino license agreement are within the law, then the government should work with IPI, according to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres at his regular radio news briefing last Friday.

Torres said he knows about IPI's requests but, as of that day (Friday), he was not aware of the result of the Commonwealth Lottery Commission's meeting last Thursday. He said Finance Secretary David DLG Atalig, who is a member of the CLC, has yet to brief him about the meeting. However, at the end of the day, there's a law that needs to be followed, he said.

"If it's a regulation that can be amended, then they can go that route. But if it simply requests in order for them to make their payments and it falls within the regulation or within the law, then I advise that we work with them. Other than that, if it's a law, then we follow the law," Torres said.

He said he is aware that one of IPI's requests was an extension on the deadline for the $15.5 million casino license fee that was due last Aug. 12.

During Thursday's meeting, CLC took out from its agenda several IPI proposals, but allowed it to defer for six months its payment of the $20-million community benefit fund due to "force majeur"—unforeseeable circumstances that prevent someone or business from fulfilling a contract.

USCG joins search for missing mariners off Kiribati

HONOLULU—The U.S. Coast Guard deployed an aircrew to aid Joint Rescue Coordination Center Fiji in searching for two missing mariners off the coast of Nonouti Island last Thursday.

An Air Station Barbers Point HC-130 Hercules aircrew began conducting search patterns after adhering to Fiji Ministry of Health COVID-19 safety precautions.

The mariners, missing since September, were last seen departing in a 15-foot aluminum skiff from the south end of Nonouti Island for a 25-mile transit to Tabiteuea.

"One of our largest challenges when conducting search and rescue missions in the Pacific is the sheer size of the search area," said Michael Cobb, command duty officer for JRCC. "Because of this challenge we often work closely with our partners in joint responses. It's through coordination with local, regional, and international partners we are able to cover more ground and increase our chances of saving a life."

Coast Guard Joint Rescue Coordination Center Honolulu watchstanders are working closely with Rescue Coordination Center Fiji to maximize search efforts.

The weather on scene is winds of 20 mph and seas up to 4 feet. ***(USCG)***

Candidates at a Glance

The Saipan Tribune will be coming out with a supplement,

#voteCNMI

in October 29 featuring candidates in the November election.

Spread your message to reach the people WHO VOTE.

Reserve your spot now!

For more information, please call 235-8747 and look for **Beth**, **Donna** or **Alyssa**

Hafa Adai! Saipan Tribune
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INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)
(This is ad is paid for NMHC with HUD funds)

NMHC IFB 2021-001

BID SUBMISSION DATE & TIME: November 05, 2020, 10:00 a.m.

Purchase and Installation of Lighting Fixtures for the Oleai Track and Field Facility

Project package will be available on October 2nd, 2020, at the NMHC website at www.nmhcgov.net.

The provisions of the NMHC Procurement regulations, NMIAC 100-60-725 AND 100-60-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid conference will be held via video teleconferencing on October 16, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. through Zoom Video Communications. Bidders will be provided the video teleconferencing link on the NMHC website at www.nmhcgov.net. Failure to attend the Mandatory pre-bid conference will be considered a non-responsive bidder.

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager/Procurement Officer, at (670)234-6866/9447 or email at officemanager@nmhcgov.net during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/
Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director

/s/
Frank Lee S.N. Borja
Acting-Chairman,
NMHC Board of Directors

NMC honor society inducts 72 new members

The Northern Marianas College Beta Lambda Psi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society recently inducted 72 new members into the chapter in a virtual ceremony that is being billed as the second largest induction ceremony in NMC's history.

Family, friends, NMC interim president Frankie Eliptico, Learning & Student Success dean Charlotte Cepeda, keynote speaker Lisa Lunde, PTK members, newly-elected officers, and advisers joined in the first ever virtual induction ceremony to honor the new inductees this fall 2020 semester.

The induction ceremony was led by the newly-elected PTK officers: president Jamerie Paras, vice president Ninfalyn V. Rabago, treasurer Charlie Bell M. Foster, recording secretary Angela F. Bernal, membership secretary Alyssa Jean S. Pantaleon, public relations secretary Jolina Kazandra Marie P. Ada, and advisers, Kaelani Demapan, Alexis Cabrera, Geri Hofschneider, and William Hunter.

An international organization, Phi Theta Kappa recognizes academic excellence, leadership, and service in two-year colleges. It has over 1,200 chapters on college campuses worldwide. Its mission is two-fold: (1) to recognize and encourage the academic achievement of two-year and four-year college students; and (2) to provide opportunities for individual growth and development through participation in honors, leadership, service and fellowship.

In order to qualify for membership in Phi Theta Kappa, students must have completed at least 12 college credits, be pursuing an associate or bachelor's degree at NMC, and must maintain a 3.5 cumulative grade point average. There is an ongoing membership drive now through Dec. 31, 2020, for eligible students.

The 72 newest full members include students from the Business, Criminal Justice, Education, Natural Resource Management, Nursing, and Liberal Arts programs: Anette Shianne Agulto, Walter Edwin Aldan, Arriane Maricar H. Antonio, Rita Lei Atalig, Mikah S. Bandoja, Aldwin Ray T. Batusin, Victoria Simone Bellas, Jan Emmanuel DLC. Bobadilla, Mary Rose Brondo, Christine Joy Cabang, Consolacion Rose Cabrera, Allia Jam O. Calilap, Leila T. Catching, Nikki C. Cepeda, Ainah Lizave Chargualaf, Emirina Luisa F. Chong, Warphy D. Dela Rosa, Lizann Marie P. Deleon Guerrero, Crystal An F. Delos Reyes, Donna Mae L. Delos Reyes, Vincent Jose Fajardo, Dylan Thomas Fleming, Charlie Bell M. Foster, Dannafaye Alejandro Gatbonton, Michaela M. Gatdula, Zoe Li Gibson, Minhyeok Ha, Mona Monique Indalecio, Max L. Jang, Kathleen Loise G. Lacanilao, Duncan Aaron L. Laxa, Kierah Kisha I. Lee, Jameson Kui Lee, Lorenzy E. Leo, Riselle Iris Leong, Shanshan Li, Rumina S. Litulumar, Antonia Jeanette P. Lizama, Devin C. Macaranas, Tahani Cherise I. Mafnas, Tonnya Lynn S. Magofna, Donna X. Mallari, Lianne Jaye Del Rosario Manabat, Catherine Manalang, Victoria Ann P. Matsunaga, Kayziel Gayle M. Mojica, Michaela S. Mole, Janette B. Orosco, Rosalia A. Pangelinan, Janelle R. Pangilinan, Alyssa Jean S. Pantaleon, Sang Jin Park, Jenine Stephanie C. Perena, Victor Manuel Ramirez, Lesley Ann C. Rapiz, Alexis Jhicko Relatado, Laealdrie Jesslynne DLG. Sablan, Aj Castanada Samonte, Carmen Corazon D. San Nicolas, Jaiden M. Santos, Julie P. Santos, Laurina Ann D. Sebaklim, Abbas Shakir, Maya S. Shimizu, Heejung "Chloe" Sin, Dennis Kim F. Tababa, Jobelle Y. Tabuena, Jenalyn Victoria B. Tinio, Nyamkhuu Tseveenjargal, Tianna Thalia B. Villagomez, Chloette C. Villazon, and Jing Zhao.

For additional information about the NMC Chapter, its memberships, or activities, contact Paras (jamerie.paras@my.marianas.edu) or any one of the advisers, Demapan (kaelani.demapan@marianas.edu), Cabrera (alexis.cabrera@marianas.edu), Hofschneider (geri.hofschneider@marianas.edu), or Hunter (william.hunter@marianas.edu). ***(NMC)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-20-027

ISLEY WATER TANK FENCE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from contractors for the replacement of the existing Isley Water Tank security fence in Isley Field, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **October 5, 2020 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-20-027** ***Isley Water Tank Fence Replacement Project"***, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 27, 2020**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The bid guarantee may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States, Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

All bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 9, 2020** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, at email manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Ms. Yvonne Ogumoro, CUC Water/Wastewater Engineer at email yvonne.ogumoro@cucgov.org and Ms. Christie Sablan, Procurement & Supply, Purchasing Technician, Senior at email christie.sablan@cucgov.org

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY BOYER SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Commonwealth Zoning Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 20, 2020 I 5:00 PM
Pacific Islands Club I Charleys Cabaret
Tel: 234-9661/2 • Fax: 234-9666
www.cnmizoning.com

AGENDA

A. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of 10/07/2020 Zoning Board Meeting minutes
5. Public Comments (not for items to be discussed in item B. Public Hearings)

B. Public Hearings

1. **Conditional Use Application #2020-2593 –** Micronesia Resort Inc. dba Kensington Hotel Saipan proposes to renovate and occupy seven (7) preexisting 2-storey building structures for its staff housing. This use is classified as a "Institutional Residential" and is permitted in the district as a conditional use. This site is located on Lot No. 007 B 07 in the village of San Roque. This area is zoned as Tourist Resort.

2. **Conditional Use Application #2020-2584 –** Tuu Group LLC proposes to renovate and occupy a portion of a preexisting 1-storey structure for its Cannabis Retail use. This use is classified as a "Cannabis Retail" and is permitted in the district as a conditional use. This site is located on Lot No. 004 D 58 in the village of Garapan. This area is zoned as Mixed Commercial district.

3. **Conditional Use Application #2020-2585 –** Tuu Group LLC proposes to renovate and occupy a portion of a preexisting 1-storey structure for its Cannabis Lounge use. This use is classified as a "Cannabis Lounge" and is permitted in the district as a conditional use. This site is located on Lot No. 004 D 58 in the village of Garapan. This area is zoned as Mixed Commercial district.

4. **Conditional Use Application #2020-2587 –** Tuu Group LLC proposes to renovate and occupy the 2nd floor of a preexisting 2-storey structure for its Cannabis Retail use. This use is classified as a "Cannabis Retail" and is permitted in the district as a conditional use. This site is located on Lot No. 002 D 20 in the village of Garapan. This area is zoned as Garapan Core district.

5. **Conditional Use Application #2020-2586 –** Tuu Group LLC proposes to renovate and occupy the 1st floor of a preexisting 2-storey structure for its Cannabis Lounge use. This use is classified as a "Cannabis Lounge" and is permitted in the district as a conditional use. This site is located on Lot No. 002 D 20 in the village of Garapan. This area is zoned as Garapan Core district.

6. **Conditional Use Application #2020-2506 –** Napu, Inc., landowner of TR 21706 "A"-R2, along with landowners of TR 21706NEW, E.A. 878-2-1 and H-569-1 proposes to rezone these properties from Village Commercial to Mixed commercial in order to operate a proposed Cannabis Retail use. This proposal involves properties in the village of San Vicente.

C. Executive (Closed) Session

D. New Business
1. Election of Board Secretary
2. FY21 Budget
3. Operations Reports (Permitting & Enforcement)

E. Miscellaneous
1. Next Meeting - November 6, 2020
2. Other Matters

F. Adjournment

In an effort to provide public access to this meeting during this pandemic, the Commonwealth Zoning Board will host this meeting via:

Zoom Video Communications
Meeting Link: https://zoom.us/j/6853007492?pwd=Q0daYlNPMDdXdFlQRTQ4UkhFRjViUT09
Meeting Code: 685 300 7492
Password: Oct20

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547 | FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEY FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Estate of MARCELA UNTALAN HOFSCHNEIDER Deceased.) CIVIL ACTION NO. 04-0564

THIRD AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on February 2, 2016, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property:

Legal description of the property: Lot no. 101 T 14 (part of original Lot 101 T 05), situated in Tinian, Northern Mariana Islands.

Total Area of the property: 11,537 square meters

Known encumbrances: None

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, November 13, 2020, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public. A copy of a title insurance report for the property is available to any prospective bidder upon request.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 6th day of October, 2020:

DATED, this 6th day of October, 2020:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

REGULAR BOARD MEETING NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Marianas Visitors Authority hereby gives notice that a **Regular Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Friday, October 16, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.** in MVA's Conference Room, Saipan, MP 96950.

MEETING AGENDA

1) Preliminary Matters
- a. Call to Order
- b. Roll Call
- c. Adoption of Agenda
- d. Adoption of Minutes
  - i. Special Board Meeting – September 28, 2020

2) Public Comments

3) Committee Reports
- a. Finance Committee
  - i. Fund Status

4) Old Business
- a. FY 2021 Budget
- b. MOU Extension - Municipalities

5) Executive Session

6) Miscellaneous/Announcements

7) Adjournment

/s/ Gloria Cavanagh
Vice-Chair, MVA Board of Directors

Man involved in vehicle theft is sentenced to 1 year

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Superior Court has imposed a one-year sentence on a man who was arrested for alleged vehicle theft and trying to run over another man with the vehicle.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph Camacho imposed a one-year sentence on Vicente Sablan Basa, 68, after Basa pleaded guilty to theft of vehicle.

Basa was originally charged with assault with a dangerous weapon, two counts of assault, two counts of vandalism, disturbing the peace, driving without license, reckless driving, and theft of vehicle but the other charges were waived pursuant to Basa's change of plea agreement.

Camacho suspended Basa's imprisonment except for 90 days and gave him credit for 59 days of time-served.

Basa was also ordered to pay court costs in the amount of $25 and his driver's license was immediately revoked.

After his release, Basa will be placed on three years' probation and will pay restitution in the amount of $12,955.78 to the victim in the case.

According to the plea agreement, upon acceptance of Basa's guilty plea and a finding of guilt by the court, the court will dismiss, with prejudice, all remaining counts of the amended information.

Basa, who has prior convictions, including assault and disturbing the peace, faced a possible maximum sentence of 24 years and six months if he had gone to trial.

Basa was arrested back in August for disturbing the peace, assault and battery, assault with a dangerous weapon, and criminal mischief.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, the CNMI Department of Public Safety received a call on Aug. 3, 2020, at about 6:15pm, reporting an ongoing dispute in Kagman. The caller also stated that the individual was driving a blue sedan. At about 6:30pm, an officer arrived at the scene, met with the victims, and noticed a nearby vehicle that had been repeatedly hit by a large object.

One of the victims told police that the suspect had arrived at their residence and introduced himself as Ben Basa, asking the victims if he could borrow their vehicle to attend a family meeting.

When the victims asked him if he has a driver's license, Basa allegedly replied that he would be borrowing someone's license as he drove off with the vehicle. The victims then got into another vehicle and followed Basa to Kagman.

One of the victims got down and told Basa that it made no sense to borrow someone's driver's license and he shouldn't be driving if he didn't have a driver's license. Basa then asked the victims what their problem was and asked if they wanted to "fight" as he punched one of the victims.

Basa then got into the blue sedan and attempted to run the victims over. Before fleeing the scene, he rammed into a Hyundai Elantra parked near the scene.

The blue sedan was later found near the area with no sign of Basa. Another officer doing routine patrol in the area located Basa and brought him to the Commonwealth Health Center for treatment of his injuries. Around 8pm, Basa was arrested for disturbing the peace, assault and battery, assault with a dangerous weapon, reckless driving, driving under the influence, and criminal mischief.

The Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe is one of the four designated polling sites for the 21-day early voting for Saipan and Northern Islands that will start today, Tuesday.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

VOTING

From Page 1

Igitol is encouraging people to exercise their right to vote. "Bring a mask and prepare to stand in line," she said, adding that voters should observe COVID-19 directives.

She also advises voters not to rush as they have 21 days to avail of the early voting process.

Early voting for Saipan and Northern Islands will end on Nov. 2.

The elections will be on Nov. 3.

For those who are 55 years old and above and those with disabilities, voting hours will be from 8am to 9am. Voting hours for all registered voters will be from 9am to 5pm.

For voters from Precinct 1A or San Antonio, Precinct 1B or San Vicente, and Precinct 1C or Koblerville, the polling site is the Koblerville Youth Center in Koblerville.

For voters from Precinct 2 or Chalan Kanoa, Precinct 3A or San Jose, and Precinct 3B or Garapan, the polling site is the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

For voters from Precinct 4D or Northern Islands, from Precinct 6 or Tinian and Aguiguan, and from Precinct 7 or Rota, but are temporarily staying on Saipan, the polling place is also at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

For voters from Precinct 4A or Tanapag, Precinct 4B or San Roque, Precinct 4C or Capital Hill, the polling site is the Tanapag Youth Center in Tanapag.

Voters from Precinct 5 or Kagman, shall vote at the Kagman Community Center in Kagman.

The CEC said that voters must ensure that they bring with them an identification card with a picture (e.g., driver's license or passport) as they will be required to present it in order to be issued a ballot at the polling sites.

The seven-day early voting on Tinian and Rota will start on Oct. 27.

There are 68 certified candidates, including Edwin K. Propst who recently resigned as representative of Precinct 1.

The candidates are 21 Republicans, 18 Democrats, nine independents, and 20 non-partisans.

Associate Justice Perry B. Inos, Presiding Judge Roberto C. Naraja, and Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo, who are up for retention on the bench, are considered non-partisans. The other non-partisans are candidates for municipal council and Board of Education.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan (Ind-MP) is running unopposed for his seventh term in the U.S. House of Representatives.

OUTAGE

From Page 1

the water supply and were restored in stages, since it took some two to three hours to fully pressurize the water distribution system.

According to a CUC statement, CUC experienced a major electrical fault on the Feeder 1 circuit fronting the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. in Garapan at 3:38am. The fault caused an electrical surge, which tripped the Power Plant 1 station service and the Aggreko Plant, "causing under-voltage at [Power Plant 1 and] triggering the protective devices, resulting in an islandwide power outage."

Water services were also interrupted in Papago, San Vicente, Dandan, Obyan, and areas in Gualo Rai.

CUC said that its line crew immediately went to work to restore and energize the power lines, restoring power in stages across the island: Feeder 1 (1st Partial) at 8:44am; Feeder 2 and 3 at 9:28am; Feeder 4 at 8:51am; Feeder 7 at 9:05am; Kiya 1 and 2 at 9:35am; Kiya 3 at 10:05am; and Kiya 4 at 10:25am.

The island's power grid was fully restored by 10:25am.

As for the water supply, the Gualo Rai TSA went back online at 11:18am but two to three hours were needed for the system to pressurize for distribution of water. Customers in the Gualo Rai area were expected to have water service no later than 2:30pm yesterday.

Customers on the Papago TSA were scheduled to receive restoration of water service at 1:30pm yesterday. Customers on the San Vicente TSA will continue to experience low water pressure due to low tank level until further notice.

CEMETERY

From Page 1

wearing of masks on Halloween may be a challenge since you won't be able to distinguish between those who are wearing masks for protection and those who aren't.

As for All Souls' Day and All Saints' Day, both occasions are observed outside, Villagomez said, but they will still work with the clergy to ensure that everyone will be adhering to protocols such as the entry points, social distancing, and wearing a mask.

Even with the cemetery plots being so close together, Villagomez said that social distancing will still be closely monitored. He is confident, though that the CNMI has a "strong community" who will help diminish the spread of the virus and will adhere to all protocols.

When asked about the checking of temperatures, Villagomez says it won't be a bad idea because it's a preventative measure toward identifying a potential symptomatic person, adding that it's better to implement protective measures than to not have any measures at all.

Another outdoor setting is the annual Trunk or Treat Halloween event. Villagomez stated that because you're dealing with children with masks and costumes, you cannot identify if they are wearing a mask underneath their Halloween mask but acknowledged that this too is an outdoor activity.

As for residential areas participating in trick or treating, Villagomez says that, as long as residents are following social distancing, ensuring that there are no more than 25 people in one setting, and enforce the wearing of face masks, it will be okay.

Among adults, a usual night out on Halloween usually consists of dressing up and going on a night out in bars. However, with COVID-19 protocols in place, this year will be different. Villagomez said that a team will be going around and ensuring that bars are adhering to the protocols. Bars that are not adhering to the protocols will be shut down on the spot.

According to Villagomez, the team isn't going around just because it's Halloween but because it's a regular patrol duty as part of the mission of the Department of Public Safety, Alcohol Beverage and Tobacco Control, and Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services.

Villagomez stated that because they have shut down a few bars already, there's been a fair warning and no one will be treated any differently.

"We trust our community. We want to work with our community and, in return, this community is showing all the success that we are in," said Villagomez. "We are not here to suffocate you in regards to your life, your daily activities, and your family commitments… but at the same time, we would like to ask for favorable support to get us to the next phase of this pandemic."

FINANCE

From Page 1

the anticipated relief checks for the community.

Speaking at a radio news press briefing last Friday, Atalig said they recognize that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to hamper the CNMI's economy. "It continues to make our residents struggle with getting jobs or getting their jobs back," he said, and that any form of financial assistance from the federal government is very much needed, most especially in a community on an island region that is heavily dependent on tourism. He said this pandemic pretty much killed the tourism industry worldwide.

Atalig said he is closely following the different talks and activities about the second stimulus bill between the U.S. House of the Representatives, the U.S. Senate, and the White House. He said he does not have any insights as to where is the negotiations are at but that he is hopeful and pray that relief will be coming soon to the CNMI in the form of a stimulus package.

Atalig said the information that they have received directly from Revenue and Taxation or from the Internal Revenue Services is to prepare for a second stimulus package. "So we're prepared. Our process in the first stimulus rollout went very well and we've tightened up some loopholes that we've had," he said.

Atalig said they're prepared and ready to release a second stimulus should that be passed by the federal government or by the U.S. Congress and the White House. "And so my thoughts are it is a well-needed relief that we are heavily anticipating to happen, hopefully sooner than later," the said.

In the first batch of stimulus funding, the checks provided up to $1,200 for every eligible individual, $2,400 for joint returns, and $500 for every qualifying child.

As of last July 28, it was reported that Finance has issued $51 million out of the $54 million that was anticipated to be released for stimulus.

It was reported that President Donald Trump had said stimulus negotiations with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-California) are "starting to work out" on Thursday morning.

EAD holders want PUA eligibility to be clarified

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A category of alien workers in the CNMI are seeking clarification from the CNMI Department of Labor regarding their eligibility for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance.

According to workers advocate Boni Sagana, parents of U.S. citizens who were given humanitarian paroles back in 2012 were given an Employment Authorization Document under the C11 category, making them lawfully authorized to work in the United States.

Citing the Disaster Unemployment Assistance handbook, Sagana said it is clear that C11 category EADs qualify for unemployment assistance.

"Based on the DUA handbook I read, to be eligible, you must be a holder of EAD for more than one year. That's why C09, or EAD holders with pending green cards, were not eligible because their EADs are less than one year," he said.

CNMI DOL has yet to issue an official list of EAD eligible categories despite *Saipan Tribune*'s numerous attempts to obtain clarification on EAD eligibility.

Sagana said that when the PUA program was launched back in June, a number of C11 holders received PUA. Now, however, C11 holders have been receiving denial letters and they are now confused why.

"We just want to know if there are guidelines because there are already C11s who received and now they're denying others. They weren't asked to return the money. There's still a whole other issue with DUA. This is like an extension of that because just like DUA, PUA is denying EAD holders who are clearly qualified. That's what we don't understand," he said.

Sagana said he just wants clarification for these long-term alien workers who are technically no longer temporary workers and should be considered part of the community.

"They have tried to appeal [their denials] and they struggled with that because most of these individuals are not technologically literate, but they try. Then there are still complications because when they receive the denial, it says they need to appeal in Guam and they did, but Guam answered them that they have to appeal to the CNMI Department of Labor, it's so complicated, especially for those who aren't computer literate," he said.

Sagana is also seeking help from politicians who can step in and help the alien workers that they now also represent. He noted that they have already spoken with Rep. Tina Sablan (D-Saipan) about the issue because many C11s reside in her village.

"I hope other politicians can help us because they also represent us; we're members of the community already. I hope [DOL] gives a clarification on this so that people are aware of what's going on because they need help, especially during this pandemic," he said.

Search for Miss Marianas 2021 begins

Stellar Marianas, the islands' nonprofit pageant and talent group, announced yesterday its 2021 Miss Marianas Pageant slated for this March and is inviting eligible young women across the CNMI to help their community by becoming a positive role model and ambassador to the world.

Stellar Marianas is encouraging 18-27 year-old qualified contestants to join the islands' premier pageant and international competition by picking up an application at Pena House Boutique in Chalan Kanoa, Pacifica Insurance in Susupe, or by downloading an application from www.facebook.com/stellarmarianas or emailing stellarqueens@gmail.com.

"This coming year, we are celebrating 45 years of pageantry in the Marianas, so we are going to come out strong and honor the achievements and progress our women have made over the years, a very larger than life experience," said national director Jaki Fujihira.

Stellar Marianas is also inviting the community to tag or post photos of who they think should be the next Miss Marianas with the hashtag #nextmissmarianas on Instagram or Facebook.

Rehearsals and preparation will begin soon and the deadline to turn in applications is on or before Saturday, Nov. 14, 2020.

Contestant requirements to join the 2021 Miss Marianas are that they must be 18 to 27 year old, U.S. citizen, single, not married, no children, and of good moral and ethical character.

Titleholders have the opportunity to represent the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands at an international pageant as well as have the support and resources to be an active community volunteer.

Contestants may receive a Stellar Marianas beauty bag, hair and make up training sessions, nutrition and fitness training, model portfolio, media interview and public speaking training sessions, opening number outfit and swim wear from Stellar Marianas.

2019 Miss Marianas Shannon Sasamoto.

ISLAND IMAGE & MOTION

Miss Marianas 2020 could win a crown, trophy, sash and flowers, $2,500 cash, all-expense paid travel opportunity to compete at international pageant, all-expense paid travel opportunities, one year use of a brand-new car, a brand-new smartphone, one-year supply of beauty products, one-year gym membership, a professional model portfolio, a four-piece luggage set from Stellar Marianas and an opportunity to create and implement a community project under your name assisted by Stellar Marianas, a possible value of over $15,000 in prizes.

For more information, email stellarqueens@gmail.com or join Stellar Marianas on Facebook or Instagram @ missnorthernmarianas. ***(PR)***

Over $7K bail set for woman who allegedly threatened man with knife

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Superior Court has imposed over $7,000 cash bail on a woman who allegedly threatened her former boyfriend and father of her child with a knife.

Jayna Cepeda Kaipat, 31, appeared before Superior Court Associate Judge Wesley Bogdan last Wednesday, who imposed the $7,500 cash bail.

Kaipat was charged with assault with a dangerous weapon and disturbing the peace for threatening her ex-boyfriend with a knife.

Kaipat, through her defense attorney, filed a motion with the court for a bail modification. She asked the court to allow her to be released upon posting 10% of the bail amount, or $750.

Chief public defender Douglas Hartig was appointed by the court to represent Kaipat while assistant attorney general Steve Kessell appeared for the government.

According to court documents, Kaipat went to the residence of her daughter's father in Kagman in the early hours of Aug. 21, 2020, to get their belongings. The victim, Kaipat's former boyfriend, told police that Kaipat was obviously intoxicated.

The victim said Kaipat kept coming closer so he kept backing up, then she started to chase him around the house.

According to a witness, Kaipat allegedly went crazy and started yelling and chasing her former boyfriend with a knife.

When responding officers arrived at the house, they said they saw Kaipat being held down by her former boyfriend and his relatives who said she was threatening them with a knife.

3 Guma Hustisia offices move to MBP

Due to ongoing construction work at the entrance of the Guma Hustisia, services regularly provided at the entrance's intake counters will be relocated to the second floor of the Marianas Business Plaza this week, starting last Oct. 12, 2020.

Guma Hustisia is having a COVID-19 Screening and Security Zone installed at the front of the building.

The Cashier's Office, the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, and the Superior Court Clerk of Court will resume regular business hours at the MBP site effective tomorrow, Oct. 14, 2020.

To prevent any spread of COVID-19, scheduled in-person appearances must follow all public health measures. Entry will be monitored and denied, as necessary, by the Marshals Service Division and other designated personnel. Except for holidays and austerity days, Judiciary business hours are as follows for the respective divisions:

CASHIER'S STATION

2nd Floor, Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 212,

Telephone Numbers: (670) 235-4255 or (670) 783-6592

Facsimile Number: (670) 236-9897

Contact Persons: John T. Villagomez, Budget and Finance Director

Email: john.villagomez@nmijudiciary.com

Or Evelyn P. Calvo, Accountant II

Email: evelyn.calvo@nmijudiciary.com

Business Hours: Open 8am to 3pm

Dropbox: Available 8am to 3pm Tuesday to Friday

A number assignment system for the service line is being used during business hours at this site. For dropbox materials, secure all documents in a sealed and marked envelope enclosing your specific written request, any required original and copy(ies) of documents, personal identification copy(ies), name and contact information, and as applicable, pre-paid postage packaging, credit card authorization, or a check or money order for the appropriate fees or pre-arranged payment. Cash shall not be included in any instance. Note that dropbox processing may take up to three business days. ***(PR)***

$1,000 reward for GAIN burglar seen on tape

An unknown adult male broke into Guam Animals in Need at 1am last Oct. 6, 2020, stealing $1,000 worth of cash and animal shelter equipment. GAIN is offering a $1,000 reward for information leading to his arrest.

Based on information provided by the Guam Police Department, a number of vehicles were congregating in the GAIN parking lot following complaints of drag racing Friday night. These vehicles were present at the same time the thief broke into the shelter. Among the vehicles caught on camera were two dark colored low-rider trucks, a new white SUV, and an older dark sedan.

The thief was also caught on camera, and GAIN is sharing photos and video in an effort to identify him. He is a heavyset adult male of average height with a beard.

"If you know someone who was drag racing in Yigo Friday night and into Saturday morning, please show them this photo. They can collect the $1,000 reward while remaining anonymous to the public,» said Cyrus Luhr, GAIN board president. An anonymous donor is providing the reward.

Among the items stolen was a microchip scanner used by the animal shelter to reunite lost pets with their owners.

"This really hurts us. With the pandemic, we're already struggling to handle an increase in cases with fewer resources," said Luhr. GAIN notes that, thankfully, no animals on were injured during the burglary.

Anyone with information is urged to contact Guam Crime Stoppers at 477-HELP (4357) or guam.crimestoppersweb.com. ***(PR)***

Screengrab shows the unknown adult male who broke into Guam Animals in Need last Oct. 6, 2020, stealing $1,000 worth of cash and animal shelter equipment. GAIN

NMI Judiciary to move to temporary courtrooms at Horiguchi building

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Superior Court is set to open some temporary courtrooms at the Horiguchi building, adding to the CNMI Judiciary's temporary courtrooms at the Marianas Business Plaza and the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

The NMI Judiciary has reportedly contracted the first, second, and third floor of the Horiguchi building to house its temporary courtrooms.

According to Nita San Nicolas, Horiguchi Building accountant, as far as they're aware, the Superior Court will be occupying the building for the next three months, starting next week until Dec. 31, 2020. San Nicolas said the Superior Court was actually set to move in earlier this month but was delayed because they had to get things in order first like rescheduling hearings.

The building, formerly occupied by the U.S. District Court for the NMI for a number of years before transferring to their newly-built building in Gualo Rai.

Since the onslaught of Super Typhoon Yutu back in 2018, the Superior Court has been occupying the second floor of the Marianas Business Plaza and the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center, turning these facilities into makeshift courtrooms.

Aside from the Superior Court, the U.S Coast Guard also occupies the Horiguchi building along with other private tenants.

Due to the construction of the COVID-19 Screening and Security Zone at the front of the Guma Hustisia, the Cashier's and Recorder's Office have also relocated to the second floor of the Marianas Business Plaza starting this week.

All requests for transcripts (audio or written), document processing, or record certification in the Clerk of the Superior Court, Family Court Division, Office of Adult Probation,

Drug Court, and the Commonwealth Recorder's Office will be accepted by email to Superior.Court@NMIJudiciary.com; and if electronic submission of documents is impossible, documents may be submitted by U.S. registered mail at: CNMI Superior Court, P.O. Box 500307 Saipan, MP 96950.

"Austerity days" is still on Monday for the government, including its branches, departments, autonomous agencies, public corporations, political subdivisions, and instrumentality that elect to implement austerity days to operate within their budget allocations.

For the entire fiscal year 2021, if a legal holiday in the CNMI falls on a Monday, the austerity will be observed on the Tuesday of that week.

Water service interruption on Thursday

There will be a scheduled water service interruption on Thursday, Oct. 15, 2020, from 8am to 4pm for the entire Kagman, Papago, San Vicente, Upper Dandan and Obyan areas.

The purpose of the scheduled water interruption is to allow the contractor of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., Hong Ye Construction, to cut and cap the existing 4-inch PVC pipe that connects the KG-131 well and the transmission line to Kagman I for a more reliable water system. Project will take place in the corner of Chacha Road, Kagman. Restoration of water service will resume soon after.

This work is part of CUC's Kagman Waterline and Booster Rehabilitation Replacement Project funded by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of the Interior.

For the safety of the men and women at the jobsite, CUC advises the public to exercise caution or take alternative routes when traveling through the area.

CUC continues to work diligently to minimize any inconvenience to its customers. For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor its Facebook page for the latest updates (https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/). ***(PR)***

$10K bail for man who allegedly cut woman's face

The Superior Court has imposed a $10,000 cash bail on a man who was arrested for allegedly cutting the face of his girlfriend with a knife.

Superior Court Associate Judge Wesley Bogdan imposed a $10,000 cash bail on Revlis Raymond during a bail hearing last Wednesday.

Raymond, 59, is facing multiple charges, including assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, assault, and disturbing the peace.

Raymond was remanded to the custody of the Department of Corrections and was ordered to return to court on Oct. 15 at 1:30pm for a preliminary hearing and on Nov. 3 at 9am for his arraignment.

According to court documents, the victim, Raymond's girlfriend, told police last Sunday that prior to the incident, she was invited by a female friend to have dinner in San Roque. She told Raymond about it, but he did not want to go because he was not feeling well.

She said Raymond's cousin picked him up at around 12pm, and she left around 3pm to go to her friend's residence in San Roque.

At about 5:07pm she called Raymond and told him to go to her friend's house in San Roque because Raymond did not have the key to their apartment, but he refused and said he was going home.

At 5:33pm, Raymond called her and asked where she was and she told him that she was still at her friend's house. She said Raymond got mad and was shouting profanities on the phone so she hung up.

The victim told police that she arrived home at around 7pm and saw Raymond and his cousin drinking beer outside their front door. She asked them to go inside the apartment and continue their drinking there, which they did.

After Raymond's cousin left at around 8pm, Raymond walked into their bedroom and allegedly tried to punch her, but she put up her right arm to block it. Raymond then took her cell phone and purse and shouted at her to go to the living room.

In the living room, the victim said Raymond told her to sit in a chair while Raymond went to the kitchen. She said when Raymond returned, he had a knife and she got scared and told Raymond to stop.

The victim alleged that Raymond said, "You think I cannot kill you?" She then begged Raymond not to hurt her. The victim said Raymond grabbed her head with his left hand and pressed the kitchen knife against the left side of her face while she continued to beg him to stop. Raymond finally walked away from her and sat down in a chair.

She asked Raymond to help her up because she was having a hard time breathing but he just sat in the chair and kept banging his hand on the table.

The victim said she did not know that she got cut from the knife because she was so scared of Raymond.

She said she was unable to call the police because Raymond had taken away her cellphone so she was only able to report the incident the next day when she got her phone back.

Police who responded stated that the victim had a wound on the left side of her face. ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for
Micronesia Resort Inc.
dba Kensington Hotel Saipan

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use permit. Micronesia Resort Inc. dba Kensington Hotel Saipan is proposing to renovate & occupy 7 (Seven) preexisting two-storey building structures for its Institutional Residential facility. This use is classified as "Institutional Residential" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 007 B 07 in San Roque village. This area is zoned as Tourist Resort.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: October 20, 2020
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Pacific Islands Club Charleys Cabaret

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, October 19, 2020. Please send written comments via e-mail to geri.delacruz@cnmizoning.com. via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Amended Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Tatiana Babauta, Chairwoman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for
NAPU Inc.

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Rezone approval. NAPU Inc. is proposing to rezone Lot No. TR 21706"A"-R2, TR 21706NEW, E.A. 878-2-1, and H-569-1 from "Village Commercial" to "Mixed Commercial" to operate a Cannabis Retail establishment. These properties are located in San Vicente village. This area is zoned as Village Commercial.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: October 20, 2020
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Pacific Islands Club Charleys Cabaret

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, October 19, 2020. Please send written comments via e-mail to geri.delacruz@cnmizoning.com. via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

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/s/ Tatiana Babauta, Chairwoman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for
Tuu Group LLC

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use permit. Tuu Group LLC is proposing to renovate & occupy a pre-existing two-storey commercial building structure to operate a Cannabis Lounge establishment. This use is classified as "Cannabis Lounge" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 002 D 20 in Garapan village. This area is zoned as Garapan Core.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: October 20, 2020
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Pacific Islands Club Charleys Cabaret

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/s/ Tatiana Babauta, Chairwoman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for
Tuu Group LLC

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use permit. Tuu Group LLC is proposing to renovate & occupy a portion of a pre-existing one-storey building structure to operate a Cannabis Lounge establishment. This use is classified as "Cannabis Lounge" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 004 D 58 in Garapan village. This area is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

A public hearing will be held on

Date: October 20, 2020
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Pacific Islands Club Charleys Cabaret

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/s/ Tatiana Babauta, Chairwoman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for
Tuu Group LLC

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use permit. Tuu Group LLC is proposing to renovate & occupy a pre-existing two-storey commercial building structure to operate a Cannabis Retail establishment. This use is classified as "Cannabis Retail" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 002 D 20 in Garapan village. This area is zoned as Garapan Core

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Date: October 20, 2020
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/s/ Tatiana Babauta, Chairwoman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

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Tuu Group LLC

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Date: October 20, 2020
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Pacific Islands Club Charleys Cabaret

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, October 19, 2020. Please send written comments via e-mail to geri.delacruz@cnmizoning.com. via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Amended Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Tatiana Babauta, Chairwoman

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

To get teachers back in the classroom, we need to know the costs of coronavirus health care

By MELISSA SZYMANSKI
THE HARTFORD COURANT

Teachers are a keystone of the nation's economic recovery. We need to return to classrooms so that students can learn, and parents can return to work.

Yet across the country students, teachers and families are in limbo, contending with virtual schooling, which isn't an ideal learning environment.

To get teachers like me safely back in schools as soon as possible, we must reduce the risk of spreading this disease to our colleagues and students. I want to get back in the classroom just as much as the families whose kids I teach. By routinely taking COVID-19 tests, even if asymptomatic, we can reduce the school outbreak risk that would significantly set back reopening timelines.

A major barrier to achieving this testing peace of mind is the lack of cost certainty around COVID-19 diagnoses. If teachers like me have to worry that COVID-19 tests might generate ruinous medical bills, we will be far less likely to get the care we need and our students deserve. Testing price transparency is the solution.

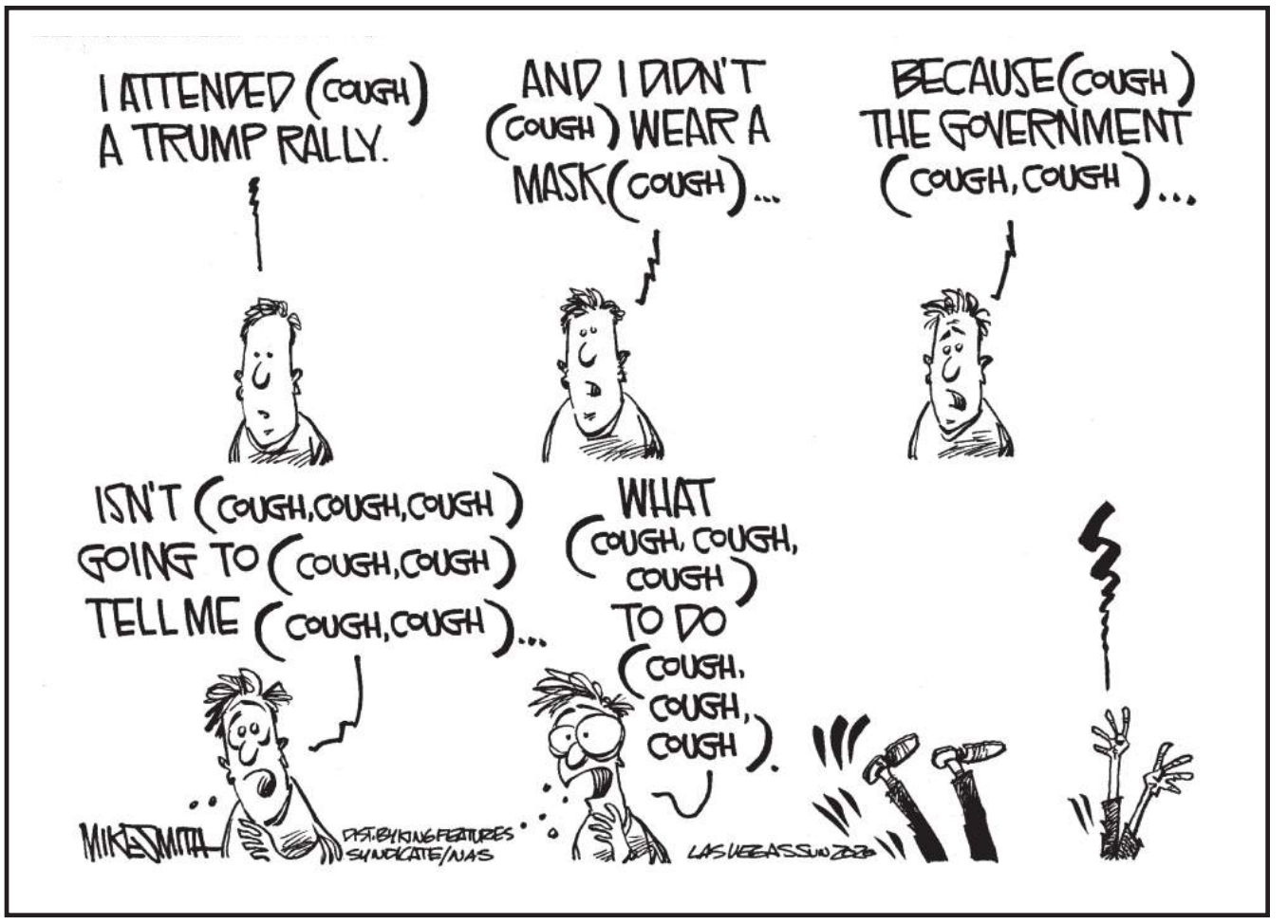
I speak from personal experience. This spring, I tried to get a COVID-19 test but didn't fit the profile required to receive one at the time. Instead, I was forced to go to the ER to get a chest X-ray, but I also received an EKG, IV fluids, a flu test and a pregnancy test, because I was in rough shape when I arrived. I was hit with $4,500 worth of associated bills, brought down to $3,200 by insurance, in the ensuing weeks. (It turned out that I had contracted COVID-19. While my medical health has recovered, my financial health has not. Fighting these bills has been a part-time job in and of itself.)

I'm not alone. There are also countless stories of patients like me who are denied COVID-19 tests yet receive five-figure bills for other related exams. Patients who do receive COVID-19 tests have been charged roughly $6,500. While these bills are outliers, tests regularly range from hundreds to thousands of dollars.

According to a Gallup Poll, nearly one in six Americans with COVID-19 symptoms would not get tested for fear of unknown costs. Hidden health care prices are, therefore, not only a financial threat but also a public health menace. Hidden prices will delay the safe reopening of classrooms and the associated economic growth.

If teachers—and all Americans—knew exactly what they had to pay for a COVID-19 test and that they wouldn't be

See TEACHERS on Next Page


I ATTENDED (COUGH) A TRUMP RALLY.
AND I DIDN'T (COUGH) WEAR A MASK (COUGH)...
BECAUSE (COUGH) THE GOVERNMENT (COUGH, COUGH)...
ISN'T (COUGH, COUGH, COUGH) GOING TO (COUGH, COUGH) TELL ME (COUGH, COUGH)...
WHAT (COUGH, COUGH, COUGH) TO DO (COUGH, COUGH, COUGH).
MIKE SMITH
DIST. BY KING FEATURES SYNDICATE/NAS
LAS VEGAS SUN 2020

The fly on Mike Pence's head during the vice-presidential debate: A transcript

By REX HUPPKE
Chicago Tribune

Rex Huppke is a Chicago Tribune *columnist. Readers may send him email at rhuppke@chicagotribune.com.*

For about two minutes during Wednesday night's vice presidential debate, a large, black fly planted itself on Vice President Mike Pence's white hair.

It may have been the most compelling live television of 2020. A nation in dire need of something good to cling to sat fascinated, wondering if the fly might remain atop Pence's noggin for the entirety of the debate. Social media lit up with fly jokes. Entomologists, I assume, rejoiced.

I doubt many Americans could understand what that fly was saying during the debate. Our educational system has never prioritized Diptera-as-a-second-language classes. Fortunately, I am fluent in fly, and the winged insect's comments were picked up clearly on Pence's microphone.

As a service to my fellow Americans, those rooting for Pence as well as supporters of Democratic Sen. Kamala Harris, I am happy to provide the following transcript:

■■■

Bzzzzzzzzzzzzzz.

Oh man, what is this stuff I'm on, snow? Nah, it's not cold. Kinda sticky, though.

Whoa, I'm on some dude's hair! Oh, bug, I must be standing out like a sore leg segment. Hope there aren't any frogs around.

This dude better not try to swat me. I've still got a good 15 days left. Last thing I need is to get squashed on some human's helmet head.

What's with all the lights? Are those cameras? COOL! Hey, look at me, focus on me! Hey, I'm a fly, check out these wings.

Bzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzz! Man, that's fun to say. I never get sick of that.

Wow, this guy sure talks a lot. Let me listen.

Hold up, hold up. Is this the vice president? Did I land on the head of the (expletive) vice president?!? Oh, man. HEY DAN, YOU WATCHIN' THIS? I'M GONNA SPIT ON THE VICE PRESIDENT'S HEAD!

Boy, I hope my brother Dan's watching. He'll be so freakin' jealous.

Man, does this guy ever shut up? That lady over there who's asking the questions seems to want him to stop talking but he just keeps going.

C'mon, dude. Shut up! She's asking you nicely, man.

I hear her, she keeps saying, "Thank you, Vice President Pence. Thank you, Vice President Pence. Thank you, Vice President Pence."

And you're still talking! That's just rude. Take a hint, buddy.

Oh, now the other lady is talking, the one behind that clear barrier thingy I almost flew into.

All right, she's kind of making some sense here. I want to hear...WHOA, WHITE HAIR, YOU JUST CUT HER OFF! SHE WAS STILL TALKING AND YOU JUST ...

Hey, why isn't the question-asking lady doing anything? Dude just cut off the other lady and now he's talking a mile a minute.

This is ... this just seems rude. It's almost like this man whose head I'm sitting on doesn't have much respect for women. He's just doing whatever he pleases. Heck, half the time he's not even answering the question, just going on and on about what a great job him and that dude Trump have done on the coronavirus and ...

Wait a minute. Great job on the coronavirus? HAHHAHAA-HAHAHAHAHAAHAHAAAAAAAA!

Listen here, dude whose head I'm on. I'm a common house fly. I darn near killed myself a couple minutes ago because I don't understand what Plexiglas is. I have a brain the size of a poppy seed, and even I know you and your boss screwed up this coronavirus thing.

You, sir, are lying! I can't believe...OH MY GOD, HE'S TALKING OVER THE QUESTION-ASKING LADY AGAIN!

Are there any brains under this pomade-heavy hunk of white hair? You're disrespecting the lady behind the Plexiglas, and you're straight-up ignoring the one asking questions. Does the word "misogynist" mean anything to you?

C'mon, dude. I find this offensive, and I like sitting on poop! How do you think this is playing in the suburbs, my dude?

Lord, I can't take this anymore. I came along looking for a place to rest, maybe lay a few hundreds eggs. And I have to bear witness to this 1950s throwback trying to ... OH NO, NOW HE'S TRYING TO SAY THERE'S NO SYSTEMIC RACISM?

Well, at least he didn't OH MAN NOW HE BROUGHT UP HIS BOSS HAVING JEWISH GRANDCHILDREN AS A DEFENSE?!?

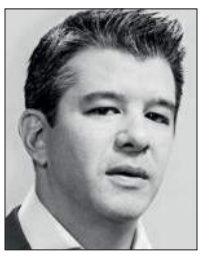
That's it. I'm gettin' out of here before I tarnish the good name of flies everywhere. I'll find a more wholesome place to lay my eggs.

Bzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzz.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

No stimulus means economy's fate hangs on next few months

By CONOR SEN
Bloomberg News



Conor Sen is a Bloomberg Opinion *columnist. He is a portfolio manager for New River Investments in Atlanta and has been a contributor to the* Atlantic and Business Insider.

With the breakdown of U.S. fiscal relief talks on Tuesday, the timeline for a robust economic recovery might now be an early 2021 story. By that point the distribution of vaccines for the coronavirus might be underway, and an election win by Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden, which looks increasingly likely, could usher in the kind of fiscal relief package that Republicans have blocked.

The issue for the economy is avoiding permanent scarring for a few more months. While fierce headwinds remain, there does appear to be enough momentum for the economy to continue on at least a slow recovery path until we have the tools to undo more of the damage that's occurred since the onset of the pandemic.

The extent to which vaccines and fiscal stimulus boost the economy in January or February is unknowable, but the timeline looks plausible. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has said it wants two months of safety data for vaccine candidates before considering giving emergency use authorization for a vaccine. With five vaccine candidates in the U.S. in advanced phase three trials—two since late July—that would mean the earliest we'd start to see limited vaccine deployment is near the end of the year.

And if President Donald Trump or Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell hold up fiscal relief before the election, then it might require a Democratic electoral sweep and the inauguration of a new administration in late January for Congress to provide the kind of comprehensive fiscal stimulus that will accelerate the recovery.

The issue is getting to that point without the economy backsliding or suffering the kind of enduring damage that could set back recovery for years.

The good news is that as we enter October, the private sector continues to show steady momentum. Last week's jobs report showed that hours worked by private sector employees accelerated slightly in September from August, and have grown at around 1% sequentially for three consecutive months.

The housing market remains strong, with buyer demand steady and inventories continuing to decline. Rising home prices and an advancing stock market continue to lead to greater household wealth, even with millions of households and small businesses still struggling. Manufacturing surveys point to at least a short-term increase in demand and production as businesses restock inventories that have been depleted the past several months.

And as we saw in the August personal income and personal spending data, the personal saving rate, which has been elevated since the onset of the pandemic, can act as a cushion for spending even if household incomes stagnate or decline. Personal income fell by 2.7% in August as some of the aid passed by Congress in the Cares Act expired. Despite that decline, personal spending grew by 1.0%. The net impact is that the personal saving rate fell to 14.1% in August from 17.7% in July, compared to a pre-pandemic normal range of 6% to 8%. This dynamic might not be sustainable, but given its elevated level, it could last for several more months.

The most significant headwind for the economy through the end of the year might be the harm done to state and local government budgets by a lack of fiscal relief. Public sector employment fell by 182,000 in September, which is why the overall level of job growth slowed. Perhaps we get a few more months of numbers like that as municipalities seek to cut costs to balance their budgets.

But Josh Barro, a business columnist for New York magazine, points out that should Democrats win the presidency and flip the Senate in November—with Election Day now less than four weeks away—they could help stabilize the economy even before taking over. While Democrats couldn't push money out the door until late January, they might pledge to pass legislation providing fiscal relief to local governments, businesses and households. That kind of promise could allow entities to borrow money to tide them over for a few months, shoring up confidence and setting the stage for a better economic environment in 2021.

It's possible that vaccines fail to materialize by the end of the year, and the 2016 election is a constant reminder that October polling is no guarantee of November election results. But vaccines and a Democratic sweep are a fairly plausible possibility over the next few months.

No doubt, state and local government budget cuts and a wave of small-business failures are going to mean a slower, more uneven recovery over the next few months than we could've had with more robust fiscal relief from Congress.

Despite that, there's enough economic momentum and cushion in household budgets and balance sheets to keep some sort of recovery going for the next crucial few months, with the hope that once we get to January, medical and legislative breakthroughs can make 2021 a better year.

TEACHERS

From Page 8

subject to additional related charges, more people will get tested and fewer will get infected. This price certainty will give us the freedom and control to get tested when and where we want.

Health care price transparency offered systemwide can provide health care consumers with cost certainty over all their care, ending the bizarre status quo where patients are blinded from prices until they receive their bills in the mail weeks and months after treatment.

Price transparency can also lower runaway health care costs. With access to real prices, patients can shop around for less expensive care and find better value the same way we do for auto repair, hair styling and life insurance.

Empowering patients with prices will enable us to steer clear of price gouging providers that charge $6,500 for COVID tests, $20,000 for broken arms or $600 for Band-Aids. Vast price differentials for the same health care services in the same market will converge. Ensuing market competition will put further downward pressure on prices.

According to a recent nationwide poll, nearly 90% of Americans and 98% of women under the age of 40 support this commonsense reform. Almost no other issue in today's politically polarized environment enjoys such overwhelming bipartisan support.

By providing COVID-19 testing cost certainty to teachers, health care price transparency can make classrooms safer and return children faster, allowing parents to return to work, boosting the economic recovery.

Just like how students rely on teachers to provide them with knowledge, teachers and all Americans need health care price information.

Melissa Szymanski is an elementary school teacher in Windsor, Connecticut.

What the plot to kidnap Gov. Gretchen Whitmer tells us about militant extremists

By CLARENCE PAGE
Chicago Tribune

Clarence Page is a member of the Chicago Tribune Editorial Board. Readers may send him email at cpage@tribune.com.

Sometimes it hurts to be right.

I have received more than a little mockery in my inbox in response to my concerns about right-wing wackos, left-wing loonies and other militants.

Pipe down, I have been advised by some readers, especially when I imply a link between the internet-fueled resurrection of white extremism and President Donald Trump's penchant for tweeting or speaking attaboy comfort to the likes of the far-right Proud Boys, the self described "Western chauvinists" to whom he called out "stand back and stand by" when asked for a repudiation during a presidential campaign debate.

But my suspicions don't sound as alarmist now that the FBI has charged 13 men with terrorism, conspiracy and weapons charges in connection with an alleged plot to kidnap Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and take her to Wisconsin for "trial."

Her offense? They didn't like the lockdown she imposed to slow the spread of COVID-19. In April our "favorite president," as he recently branded himself, tweeted a call to "LIBERATE MICHIGAN!" from the lockdown.

Yeah, right. An invitation from the president to "liberate" themselves presumably from the country over which he presides seemed to most rational people to be too assured to take seriously. But not everyone is rational.

According to an FBI affidavit detailing the kidnapping plot, the alleged ringleader was said to have been particularly outraged by the state's closure of private gyms. Heaven forbid that he should be denied the right to tone up his abs at a time that he sees fit to be fit.

But if this sounds like another laughably crazy Keystone-crooks caper, think again. "In white power discourse, kidnapping people for 'trial' is often followed by references to lynching," writes Kathleen Belew, assistant professor of history at the University of Chicago, an expert on white power movements, in a Washington Post op-ed. "Whitmer might have been assassinated by this group."

That's not much of a stretch for a group allegedly determined enough to plot an attack on Michigan's state capital and a kidnapping across state lines—which presumably also would have included Illinois and Indiana.

Maybe that possibility was on Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot's mind when she responded. "It's chilling," and "I think all roads lead back to Donald Trump."

Oh, there we go again, right? Always blame Trump. Unfortunately, when he throws out words like little hand grenades, he deserves it.

President Trump and Attorney General William Barr like to focus on anti-fascist antifa and "anarchist" "left wing" groups, even declaring three cities—Portland, Oregon, Seattle and New York—to be "anarchist cities" that could lose federal funding for allegedly tolerating crime.

Yet, acting Homeland Security director Chad Wolf writes in the department's new threat assessment report, released Wednesday, that he is "particularly concerned about white supremacist violent extremists who have been exceptionally lethal in their abhorrent, targeted attacks in recent years."

It's also important to note that the FBI originally was tipped off to the militia group's alleged plot by a member who was concerned not about racial militancy but about plans to target and kill police officers.

Indeed, race is only one element in the rise of angry right-wing militancy, although its visibility often adds fuel to the fire. That's alarming—and, having lived through too many crises of racial tension since the early 1960s, I am not easily alarmed.

I am sadly reminded of 1996, the year after the Oklahoma City truck bombing, when militias last made big—and bad—news. That was the year when the pioneer Black journalist Carl Rowan, one of the first African American columnists to be syndicated in mainstream newspapers, released an unusually angry book called "The Coming Race War in America: A Wake-Up Call."

I respected Rowan as a mentor and role model who inspired me to enter the business, but even I thought his book was a bit alarmist at the time. Groundbreaking stars of color included Oprah Winfrey, Colin Powell, Tiger Woods and a young law school grad named Barack Obama. To me, it was a time of great hope.

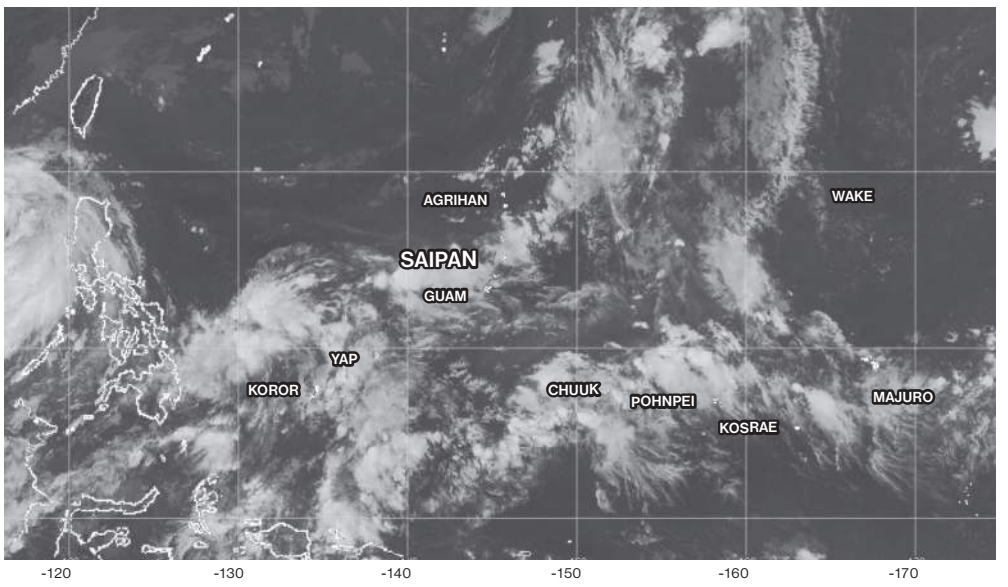
But recently I have to wonder whether Rowan's "Wake-Up Call" was only a step or two ahead of its time. Our troubles, in other words, are about more than just race, even if racial tensions are the most visible sign.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.
87° 77°	87° 76°	87° 77°	87° 77°	87° 77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 2:06 PM, MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2020

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Island effect convection has underperformed today. The few clouds that did form were quickly sheared off to the east. However, there are a few thunderstorms associated with the upper-level low in the northern Marianas, so moved the thunderstorms to Tinian, Saipan, and the surrounding waters.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 77°
Yap	Thunderstorms	84° / 77°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	87° / 81°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	88° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	85° / 77°
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	85° / 81°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:08 AM	5:57 PM
Wednesday	6:08 AM	5:57 PM
Thursday	6:08 AM	5:56 PM
Friday	6:08 AM	5:56 PM
Saturday	6:08 AM	5:55 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	2:16 AM	3:21 PM	-
Wednesday	3:15 AM	4:08 PM	-
Thursday	4:15 AM	4:54 PM	-
Friday	5:16 AM	5:40 PM	-
Saturday	6:17 AM	6:26 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	63° / 55°
Beijing	Cloudy	55° / 46°
Hong Kong	Showers	88° / 75°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	85° / 75°
London	Partly Cloudy	66° / 57°
Los Angeles	Sunny	82° / 58°
Manila	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	66° / 45°
Miami	Thunderstorms	84° / 79°
New York	Cloudy	67° / 62°
Osaka	Rain	70° / 64°
Paris	Partly Cloudy	70° / 52°
Busan	Mostly Cloudy	72° / 63°
Rome	Sunny	77° / 55°
Salem	Partly Cloudy	87° / 67°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	64° / 50°
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	70° / 48°
Tokyo	Showers	66° / 61°
Washington, DC	Cloudy	67° / 61°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
3:28 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.53
10:32 AM	LOW TIDE	0.02
5:38 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.89
11:33 PM	LOW TIDE	0.88

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
- ❏ Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
- ❏ Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- ❏ Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- ❏ Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mpand, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

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E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2020

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	7:30am	8:10am	1, 4
UA117	7:50am	8:30am	6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

UA117/183	7:30am	9:10pm	1 via Guam

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

UA183	7:25pm	9:10pm	1 via Guam
UA183	9:05pm	10:50pm	5 via Guam

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	5:50am	6:31am	1, 4
UA174	6:15am	6:56am	6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA184/174	11:45pm	6:56am+1	5 via Guam

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

UA184	10:25pm	4:25am+1	1 via Guam
UA184	11:45pm	5:33am+1	5 via Guam

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 8, 2020

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
1303	3:30PM	4:00PM	Mon/Wed/Fri

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
3103	4:30PM	5:00PM	Mon/Wed/Fri

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1205	11:00	11:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1208	14:00	14:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1212	18:00	18:15	Temporarily Unavailable

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2105	11:30	11:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2108	14:30	14:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

Business

MARK RABAGO
Imoya Restaurant's cheese katsu.

MARK RABAGO
Imoya Restaurant owner Michael Jang, right, with chef Daniel Atalig.

MARK RABAGO
Imoya Restaurant's miso cream pasta.

MARK RABAGO
Imoya Restaurant's sakura.

Quality and affordable Japanese food at Imoya

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Michael Jang has brought a fresh vibe to Imoya Restaurant as he wants to reintroduce the 15-year-old Japanese restaurant to the younger generation.

Now under the ownership of the 23-year-old Marianas High School alumnus, the restaurant has an entirely new menu but maintains the rustic and traditional feel of the old Japanese restaurant that the community has come to love.

"Our menu is pretty much different from the old menu. I want to do more of a modern twist and I want affordable dishes that even high school kids who are broke can enjoy," said Jang.

Opening not even a month ago, Jang and company are still feeling their way into the restaurant industry, but all indications show that they're on the right track by the quality of the food they've been churning out and the great reviews they've gotten from customers.

Food that so far tickled everyone's fancy are the sakura (fresh salmon with cucumber and flying fish roe), katsudon curry, pork loin cutlet, tempura udon, yellow tail with cream sauce, and miso cream pasta. The dishes that come out of Imoya Restaurant's kitchen are fresh and tasty with a modern take on classic Japanese dishes that are obviously made with a lot of affection.

"Majority of our menu is under $15. …I'm still young and I know how it feels to be broke and have 25 cents in my bank account. So I thought, 'Why not raise the quality of the food because it's Asian and the ingredients can easily be shipped from Korea and Japan and I can offer a more affordable menu,'" he said.

One thing Imoya Restaurant won't do is scrimp on the quality of its food, Jang said. "One thing I can guarantee—comparatively to pretty much any other Japanese restaurants here—is the quality of our food and the condition of our food is decidedly better."

Strategically located in the middle of the island, Jang's hope is that Imoya Restaurant could quickly become the place to be for everyone on Saipan. "I want to make this place into something where you can go on a random Tuesday night. I want this place to be where people can come at any given night and just chat and enjoy great food for hours," he said.

Jang said their menu is not set in stone yet as they will be coming out with an expanded one in the coming days. He also has his eye on creating other business ventures soon.

"It's been only three weeks since we've been open. In the near future I want to expand the business. I might keep Imoya as my treasure No. 1. …It'll be like my home ground and increase different varieties of cuisines that we have here and probably establish another restaurant but with a similar concept."

Jang's high hopes is not just for Imoya Restaurant, but for the whole Commonwealth as well. "Saipan is a very small island but, at the same time, it has very little competition in the restaurant business. A lot of locals here…if you give them quality stuff that is reasonable they're willing to spend for it. If you really think about it, Saipan can be the next Singapore."

As far as following the guidelines of the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, Jang said Imoya Restaurant has all the I's dotted and the T's crossed. "We…sanitize and wipe down all our tables and the restaurant's surfaces after each customer. We have a long break (3 hours) so we have a lot of time to mop, water, and sanitize every single thing."

A self-confessed entomophobia (someone who fears bugs), Jang said he also regularly calls exterminators to fumigate the restaurant so pest control is not a problem.

Imoya Restaurant is located across Atkins Kroll along Beach Road in Oleai. It is open from Monday to Saturday, 11am-2pm for lunch and 5pm-9pm for dinner. For reservations or for more information, call 488-2211 or reach them through their Facebook page.

Amid COVID, many businesses in precarious spot as 2020 ends

NEW YORK (AP)—The final three months of the year, usually a boom time for many small businesses thanks to holiday shopping and celebrations, looks precarious as the coronavirus maintains its grip on the economy.

Owners contending with government restrictions or crumbling demand are trying to hold on, with some creating new products and services or desperately searching for new customers. Others, however, have found they're already well equipped to meet the lifestyle changes brought about by the pandemic.

The big corporate and nonprofit parties and events that Sophia D'Angelo ran before the virus outbreak have just about vanished. Large in-person gatherings that companies typically use to launch or promote their brands aren't possible because of social distancing requirements.

"The fourth quarter was always the bulk of my business," says D'Angelo, who owns Boston Experiential Group, based in Boston.

D'Angelo has had to get creative. She's using her expertise to arrange small gatherings like holiday-themed dinners and parties at people's homes, usually for no more than 10 guests.

The fourth quarter is a key time for many industries and companies of all sizes. Some retailers typically expect to make as much as half their annual revenue during the holiday shopping season, as do many of their suppliers. Any business connected with holiday parties and celebrations also has high hopes for the October-December period.

But conditions are dicey this year. The coronavirus has devastated many small businesses; it's estimated that hundreds of thousands already have closed forever. Many of the survivors are expected to struggle further during this quarter, especially as cases of the virus surge in some areas of the country. More businesses—restaurants and retailers in particular—will likely go out of business if they cannot bring in the revenue they need.

Restaurants face a difficult time as state and local governments limit the number of people they can serve. The impact of the social distancing can be seen in sales figures — the National Restaurant Association reported that 70% of restaurants suffered a drop in revenue during August from a year earlier.

Ohio's restrictions forced Adam Rammel to at least temporarily abandon plans for a catering and event space designed for parties, in time for the holidays. Rather than have the space sit unused, Rammel turned it into The Syndicate, a restaurant located next door to his 5-year-old brewpub, Brewfontaine.

Rammel, who worried about the future of his Bellefontaine, Ohio, business when he was interviewed by The Associated Press in April, said he's "hanging in there" but still concerned because dining is limited by social distancing. With tables six feet apart, he can serve 65 people at Brewfontaine instead of his full capacity of 100. And he has to stop serving alcohol at 10 p.m., four hours earlier than pre-pandemic. Combined revenue from both restaurants is down more than a third from where Rammel projected it would be.

"I don't think there's any chance to break even with where we expected to be," Rammel says.

Barking Irons, a maker of apple brandies, is heavily dependent on the bars, restaurants and liquor stores of New York City for its business. The company typically makes half its revenue in the fourth quarter.

The city's social life, and economy, remains constrained by the pandemic. Restaurants can have only a quarter of their capacity indoors and there's no bar service. And while outdoor dining will continue indefinitely, it's hard to predict how many people will be willing to brave the cold — even with a brandy to warm them.

The other side of Barking Irons' business is picking up some slack — the distiller has boosted sales to liquor stores as more people drink at home. Overall sales won't double, as they had every year since the brand launched in 2017, but Ashley Purdum, marketing director for Barking Irons, is hoping to break even.

"If we can just remain even in a time of pandemic, if we can hit our same numbers as last year, we'll be happy," she says.

Nation

Trump's task: Resetting campaign that GOP fears is slipping

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump is running out of time to recover from a series of self-inflicted setbacks that have rattled his base of support and triggered alarm among Republicans who fear the White House is on the verge of being lost to Democrat Joe Biden.

The one-two punch of Trump's coronavirus diagnosis and his widely panned debate performance also has Republicans worried they could lose control of the Senate. With just over three weeks until Election Day, Senate races in some reliably red states, including South Carolina and Kansas, are competitive, aided by a surge in Democratic fundraising that has put both the Republican Party and Trump's own campaign at an unexpected financial disadvantage.

The president will aim for a reset this week, hoping an aggressive travel schedule and Judge Amy Coney Barrett's Supreme Court confirmation hearings will energize his most loyal supporters and shift attention away from a virus that has killed more than 214,000 Americans on his watch.

President Donald Trump pumps his fist to the crowd with a bandages on his hand, before speaking from the Blue Room Balcony of the White House to a crowd of supporters, Saturday, Oct. 10, 2020, in Washington. AP

Optimists in the president's inner circle point to his unique ability to command attention and to his 2016 campaign, which also seemed destined for defeat before a late shift. But that comeback was aided by outside forces against an unpopular opponent. This year's campaign, other Republicans worry, may instead resemble 1980 or 2008: a close race until, at the end, it decidedly wasn't.

"It's not good for my side," said veteran GOP pollster Whit Ayres. "Pretty obviously, in many ways down-ballot Republicans are in the boat with Donald Trump. That's good for Republicans in deep red states, but more problematic for those in swing states."

Asked for any bright spots for the Republican field, Ayres said, "I'm wracking my brain and just struggling."

This account of Trump's reelection effort was compiled from interviews with nearly two dozen White House and campaign officials and Republicans close to the West Wing, many of whom were not authorized to publicly discuss private conversations. It describes how a campaign that has generally been stable for months is enduring a series of historic jolts.

Republicans began sensing warning signs last month.

The death of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg animated conservatives but also electrified Democrats, driving a tsunami of cash toward Biden and down-ballot Democrats. Trump's heavily derided debate performance only exacerbated the problem, as even his own supporters found him rude as he so frequently interrupted Biden.

Reviewing data afterward, campaign aides worried as they started to see Trump's support begin to slip. The president's coronavirus diagnosis only compounded the problem, particularly with older voters.

"It's not good," said Alex Conant, a senior campaign adviser to Sen. Marco Rubio's 2016 presidential campaign. "It's been a long time since Donald Trump has had any good news, and when he does have good news, he manages to step on it."

The Trump campaign insists the president can win reelection, saying his return to the road will excite his base while claiming that public polling has undercounted their supporters.

But national polls have shown Biden with a significant lead. And while the margins in the battleground states are smaller, Trump has faced stubborn deficits in most of the states that will decide the election.

Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, said Friday if that people are depressed and upset on Election Day, "I think we could lose the White House and both houses of Congress, that it could be a bloodbath of Watergate proportions." In the two national elections after Republican President Richard Nixon resigned in 1974, Democrats significantly increased their congressional majorities and took back the White House.

Advisers privately concede that Trump, who has not moderated his tone on the virus after getting sick, has little chance of victory without Florida, which will be the site of his first post-diagnosis rally on Monday. And a loss in Arizona would require Trump to hold onto Pennsylvania.

"He's in trouble, there's no question. By every traditional measuring stick, this looks like a Biden landslide," said Ari Fleischer, former press secretary for President George W. Bush. "It's hard to predict what will happen in Congress, but anytime there is a large-scale victory, it has the potential to create tides to sweep people out."

The fate of the Senate has increasingly weighed on Republicans, who see tough races in Maine, Colorado, Arizona and North Carolina and even worries in deep-red Kansas and South Carolina. Some Trump backers are warning that GOP Senate candidates are now at an inflection point and some, including Sens. John Cornyn of Texas and Martha McSally of Arizona, took small steps to distance themselves from the president in recent days.

Dan Eberhart, a prominent GOP donor and Trump supporter, said there is no doubt that Trump's handling of the pandemic is eroding support for down-ballot Republicans and could lead to a Democratic sweep of government.

"I hope the polls have it wrong," Eberhart said. "But Republicans ... need to develop a campaign strategy committed to protecting the Senate at all costs, even if it means sacrificing the Oval Office."

One significant opportunity to potentially change the trajectory of the race is Barrett's Senate confirmation hearings this week. Trump's campaign believes the hearings could change the political narrative away from the virus and draw attention to Biden's refusal to say whether he would expand the Supreme Court.

'We can't lose our momentum:' Louisiana vows to rebuild

LAKE CHARLES, La. (AP)—Back-to-back hurricanes in the space of six weeks left parts of Louisiana blanketed Sunday with tarpaulins, mangled metal and downed power lines—but not necessarily despair.

Utility crews fanned out across the battered southwestern part of the state to restore electricity in the wake of Hurricane Delta, and residents began returning home along roads lined with debris and houses missing roofs. Some were grateful that the damage was not as bad as it could have been.

A 70-year-old woman in Iberia Parish died in a fire likely caused by a natural gas leak following damage from Hurricane Delta, the Louisiana Department of Health said Sunday.

Louisiana officials also blamed the death of an 86-year-old man on the hurricane. The St. Martin Parish resident died in a fire that erupted after he refueled a generator in a shed, Gov. John Bel Edwards said. He said it didn't appear the generator had cooled down before the man refilled it.

A third storm-related death was reported in Florida, where a 19-year-old tourist from Illinois drowned after getting caught in a rip current caused by the storm off Destin, authorities said.

Roughly 350,000 customers in Louisiana remained without power two days after Delta blew ashore near the town of Creole with winds of 100 mph (155 kph), slamming a part of the state still recovering from Hurricane Laura's 150 mph (241 kph) onslaught on Aug. 27. Laura was blamed for 32 deaths, many of them caused in the storm's aftermath by carbon monoxide poisoning from generators.

The remnants of Delta, meanwhile, dumped heavy rain on parts of Georgia, the Carolinas and Virginia.

The storm was also blamed for washing out a railroad track and causing the derailment of a freight train in the Atlanta area that sparked a small fire and briefly forced some residents from their homes. Two crew members were taken to a hospital for observation and later released.

Clair Hebert Marceaux lost her home in Cameron Parish, Louisiana, during Hurricane Laura and said the community was hard at work on rebuilding when Delta struck.

Workers allegedly dumping some border wall waste into Mexico

PHOENIX (AP)—The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is investigating allegations that workers have illegally dumped waste from border wall construction into Mexico, where the metal is being sold on the black market.

Crews on the Arizona side of the border have demolished the metal barriers filled with concrete that once marked the international boundary at various locations.

The barriers are being replaced with the taller bollard panels, which are stacked a short distance north of the border.

Pieces of the older barriers litter the ground, according to the Arizona Republic.

The construction workers "throw the metal our way," Julio Espinoza told the newspaper. "We ask for it and they toss it our way. We then pick it up and sell it. We don't have a job because of the coronavirus in Mexico, so that's where we make money to support our families."

Espinoza said he and others gather anything to sell to scrap yards in the border city of Sonoyta, located across the border from Lukeville, Arizona.

It's unclear how many tons of metal and other discarded construction waste workers have dumped across the border into Mexico.

U.S. companies aren't authorized to dump demolition and construction waste across international boundaries, according to the Republic.

The construction site is located in Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument in southern Arizona and can be seen from the Mexican side of the border.

A spokesperson for the Army Corps of Engineers said the agency is reviewing "allegations of illegal dumping by one of our contractors" across the border into the Mexican state of Sonora.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection is overseeing the ongoing construction of 212 miles of newer physical barriers along Arizona's border with Mexico, including the 43 miles under construction at Organ Pipe.

The men and women scavenging for metal said the dumping has been going on unchecked for months.

Asia

Indians wearing face masks as a precaution against the coronavirus wait at a bus stop in Bengaluru, India, Sunday, Oct. 11, 2020. AP

AS EXPERTS WARN OF COMPLACENCY

India cases cross 7M

NEW DELHI (AP)—India's confirmed coronavirus toll crossed 7 million on Sunday with a number of new cases dipping in recent weeks, even as health experts warn of mask and distancing fatigue setting in.

The Health Ministry registered another 74,383 infections in the past 24 hours. India is expected to become the pandemic's worst-hit country in coming weeks, surpassing the U.S., where more than 7.7 million infections have been reported.

The ministry also reported 918 additional deaths, taking total fatalities to 108,334.

The number of people who have died of COVID-19 has remained relatively low in South and Southeast Asia—from India to Vietnam and Taiwan—compared to European countries and the United States, said Dr. Randeep Guleria, a government health expert.

"We have been able to keep the curve rise slow, but I do agree that we have not been able to get it to move aggressively down. That's related to our population density, diversity of our country and socioeconomic challenges in our country," said Guleria, referring to India's burgeoning population of nearly 1.4 billion.

Some experts say though that India's death toll may not be reliable because of poor reporting and health infrastructure and inadequate testing.

India aims to provide vaccines to 250 million people by July 2021, Health Minister Harsh Vardhan said last week. He said that the government was planning to receive 450 million to 500 million vaccine doses and would ensure "equitable access".

India saw a steep rise in cases in July and added more than 2 million in August and another 3 million in September. But it is seeing a slower pace of coronavirus spread since mid-September, when the daily infections touched a record high of 97,894.

It's averaging more than 70,000 cases daily so far this month. India has a high recovery rate of 85% with active cases below 1 million, according to the Health Ministry.

Health officials have warned about the potential for the virus to spread during the upcoming religious festival season, which is marked by huge gatherings in temples and shopping districts.

A crucial factor will be people wearing masks and maintaining a safe distance.

Dr. S.P. Kalantri, a hospital director in the village of Sevagram in India's worst-hit western Maharashtra state, said that people in his village had stopped wearing masks, maintaining distance or washing their hands regularly. He added that the sick were still being brought in to his hospital.

S. Korea worries about missile shown in N. Korea military parade

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea on Sunday urged North Korea to commit to its past disarmament pledges while expressing concerns over the North's unveiling of a suspected new long-range missile during a military parade.

During celebrations marking the 75th birthday of its ruling party in Pyongyang on Saturday, North Korea paraded a variety of weapons systems, including two missiles that were disclosed for the first time to a foreign audience. One is what appeared to be an intercontinental ballistic missile that is larger than any of the North's known ICBMs, and the other would likely be an upgraded version of a missile that can be fired from submarines.

While some experts say they could be mock-ups of missiles under development, their disclosures suggest North Korea has been continuously pushing to boost its weapons capability amid a stalemate in nuclear diplomacy with the United States.

South Korea's Defense Ministry said Sunday it was expressing concerns about the fact that "North Korea unveiled weapons including what was suspected to be a new long-range ballistic missile." A ministry statement demanded North Korea abide by 2018 inter-Korean deals aimed at lowering animosities.

South Korea's Foreign Ministry issued a separate statement urging North Korea to return to talks to produce progress in its past commitment to achieving denuclearization and peace on the Korean Peninsula. After an emergency National Security Council meeting, council members in South Korea said they'll continue to analyze the strategic significance of the North Korean weapons systems disclosed Saturday and review South Korea's defense capabilities.

Ties between the Koreas remain strained amid the deadlocked nuclear diplomacy between Pyongyang and Washington.

World

DESPITE TRUCE

Azerbaijan Armenia report cities shelled

BAKU, Azerbaijan (AP)—Azerbaijan on Sunday accused Armenia of attacking its cities and villages in violation of the cease-fire deal brokered by Russia that seeks to end the worst outbreak of hostilities in the separatist Nagorno-Karabakh region.

The Azerbaijani Defense Ministry said that Armenian forces shelled villages in the Aghdam, Terter, Aghjabedi and Fizuli regions of Azerbaijan. Azerbaijani authorities earlier accused Armenian forces of firing missiles at Ganja, the country's second largest city, and the city of Mingachevir overnight.

Nine civilians were killed and more than 30 others wounded in Ganja, officials said. Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev called the attack on the city "a war crime" and a "gross" violation of the cease-fire on Twitter, promising "a befitting retaliation."

Nagorno-Karabakh's military officials denied attacking Ganja and said the territory's army is observing the cease-fire. They added that during the night Azerbaijani forces shelled Stepanakert, the region's capital, and other towns in violation of the truce.

The recent bout of fighting between Azerbaijani and Armenian forces started Sept. 27 and left hundreds of people dead in the biggest escalation of the decades-old conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh since a separatist war there ended in 1994. The region lies in Azerbaijan but has been under control of ethnic Armenian forces backed by Armenia.

The foreign ministers of Armenia and Azerbaijan signed a truce in Moscow after Russian President Vladimir Putin had brokered it in a series of calls with Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev and Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinian.

The cease-fire took effect at noon Saturday, after talks in Moscow that were sponsored by Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov. The deal stipulated that the cease-fire should pave the way for talks on settling the conflict.

If the truce had held, it would have marked a major diplomatic coup for Russia, which has a security pact with Armenia but also cultivated warm ties with Azerbaijan.

However, minutes after the cease-fire took force, both sides accused each other of continuing attacks in violation of the deal.

The situation in the region was "relatively calm" on Sunday morning, according to Nagorno-Karabakh leader Arayik Harutyunyan, with only minor hostilities along the front line. But it was unclear whether the calm would last, he said.

Later Sunday, Armenian Defense Ministry spokeswoman Shushan Stepanian reported attacks by Azerbaijani forces on southern and northeastern directions, saying that Nagorno-Karabakh's forces "resolutely suppress all enemy operations."

Nagorno-Karabakh's army in a statement Sunday promised a "disproportionately harsh" response if Azerbaijan "continues to violate the cease-fire." The Azerbaijani Defense Ministry said that "the political and military leadership of Armenia bears the responsibility for the aggravation of the situation in the region."

Azerbaijan's president said in an interview with the Russian RBC news outlet that "if the Armenian side is committed to the cease-fire regime ... the phase of political settlement will begin."

Scores detained during protests in Belarus

KYIV, Ukraine (AP)—Scores of people were detained in Belarus on Sunday during protests against the country's authoritarian leader, who won his sixth term in office in a vote widely seen as rigged, a Belarusian rights group said.

Tens of thousands of protesters rallied in the Belarusian capital Minsk for the 10th consecutive Sunday, demanding the resignation of President Alexander Lukashenko, who has run the country with an iron fist for 26 years. The Viasna human rights center estimated that around 100,000 people took part in the protest, which the police moved to disperse with water cannons, stun grenades and truncheons.

Rallies also took place in other cities, including Brest, Vitebsk and Grodno.

Dozens of protesters sustained injuries, according to Viasna. The group released a list of protesters detained across the country on its website that by Sunday evening had more than 300 names on it.

"This has been the harshest dispersal of a Sunday march since August," Viasna leader Ales Bialiatski told The Associated Press.

Mass protests have rocked Belarus for over two months, with the largest ones held on Sundays and drawing up to 200,000 people. The unprecedented unrest was triggered by the results of the Aug. 9 presidential election that handed Lukashenko a victory with 80% of the vote.

His main challenger, Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, got 10%. She and her supporters refused to recognize the results, saying the outcome of the vote was manipulated.

In the first days of the protests, Belarusian authorities cracked down brutally on protesters, with police detaining thousands and injuring scores with truncheons, rubber bullets and stun grenades. The violent response to the rallies prompted international outrage.

The government has since scaled down on the violence but has maintained the pressure, detaining hundreds of protesters and prosecuting top activists. Prominent members of the opposition's Coordination Council, formed to push for a transition of power, have been arrested or forced to leave the country.

At least 35 journalists have been detained during protests on Sunday, according to the Belarusian Association of Journalists. Police and other security forces blocked off central areas of Minsk, and military trucks and armored carriers were seen in the city before the rally.

On Saturday, Lukashenko visited a prison to talk to opposition activists, who have been jailed for challenging his reelection. Lukashenko's office said that "the goal of the president was to hear everyone's opinion."

Commentators said the move was an attempt to imitate a dialogue that would allow Lukashenko to drown the protests in talks and reduce tensions.

Following detentions and beatings during Sunday's protest, Bialiatski of the Viasna center said that "instead of a dialogue, Belarusians received another strong-arm dispersal (of a protest) with the beaten and the injured."

Overdrive

By MARK PHELAN
DETROIT FREE PRESS

AUTO REVIEW: 2021 Nissan Rogue's new features, performance, value ready to pressure RAV4 and CR-V

TNS

Nissan developed a new shifter that debuts on the 2021 Nissan Rogue Platinum.

Nissan is poised to challenge a couple of America's best-selling vehicles when the new 2021 Rogue compact SUV arrives in dealerships in October.

The Rogue's already a big league player. The old model is probably the No. 3 non-pickup in the country, although it's impossible to be sure because Nissan insists on counting sales of the Rogue and the smaller, less expensive Rogue Sport as a single vehicle.

Corporate sales count shenanigans aside, the new 2021 no-adjective Rogue is primed to be a hit, one of the bestselling compact SUVs in the country.

Value, looks and space make the 2021 Rogue even more competitive with the class-leading Toyota RAV4 and Honda CR-V, both of which are getting on a bit in age.

The Rogue's other key competitors include the Hyundai Santa Fe and Kia Sorento, both of which have new models debuting shortly; Chevrolet Equinox, Ford Escape and VW Tiguan. The competition is intense because the loosely defined compact SUV class has become one of America's bestsellers as buyers move away from sedans.

The Rogue is the first Nissan vehicle based on a new platform developed by the Renault Nissan Mitsubishi alliance, an automaking giant that appears to be on shaky ground as Renault and Nissan feud over control in the wake of the arrest in Japan and subsequent escape to Lebanon of longtime top dog Carlos Ghosn.

If the alliance crumbles, buyers will be among the losers. The '21 Rogue is the latest in a line of fine vehicles that were likely better than any of the three automakers would have created on their own.

Driving impressions

The 2021 Rogue is about the same size as its predecessor, but offers more rear head room and cargo space. Those welcome improvements owe to a new rear suspension that enabled a lower floor and a squared-off body design that created a bigger hatchback opening to load large objects. Rear leg room is fine, too.

The interior was quiet, with good headroom, an accommodating bin in the center console and easy to use controls.

I tested a top-of-the-line, all-wheel drive Platinum model with the best interior trim and features, including diamond quilted semi-aniline leather upholstery. The gauges were exceptionally legible, thanks to crisp digital projections of analog instruments. The display is configurable, if dials and pointers aren't your thing.

The steering in the preproduction model I drove was sharp and nicely weighted, feeling unusually precise for this class of vehicle. The suspension, which includes a new six-point multilink rear, kept the Rogue flat and stable, with virtually no body roll as I rounded curving country roads faster than most compact SUV owners probably will.

The Rogue's 2.5L four-cylinder engine uses less technology than the smaller turbos most competitors offer, but acceleration was adequate. The engine produces 181 horsepower and, coincidentally, 181 pound-feet of torque.

Nissan's devotion to continuously variable automatic transmissions continues to pay off in the Rogue.

The CVT operates unobtrusively and delivers good acceleration.

Official EPA fuel economy projections are not available, but Nissan's estimates are modest enough that I'm not inclined to doubt them: the company projects the AWD Platinum I tested will score 25 mpg in the city, 32 on the highway and 28 combined. The key combined figure trails the CR-V and RAV4's EPA ratings slightly and matches the Escape. It's always a bit of a disappointment when a new vehicle doesn't raise the bar for fuel economy in its class.

The lack of a hybrid model is a puzzling omission. Nissan and Renault have both tried to position themselves leaders in electrification, but not with the alliance's bestselling vehicle in North America.

Best new features

Nissan's useful ProPilot Assist driving assistant, which can handle much of the steering, braking and accelerating on highways when adaptive cruise control is engaged, got a couple of tweaks that will be welcome on long hauls.

It's important not to confuse ProPilot Assist with hands-free driving. Only Cadillac's pricey Super Cruise offers that on any current vehicles.

It does, however, make highway driving easier by managing speed, following distance and keeping the vehicle centered in its lane under normal conditions _ as long as the driver has a hand on the steering wheel. I found the first generation of ProPilot useful on long highway runs.

The new function, called Navi-link, gets information from the navigation system and GPS to adjust speed for upcoming curves and ramps. Nissan says that will let drivers use ProPilot more.

The '21 Rogue's styling is consistent with the old model, but adds crisp new lines to go with its more upright sides and squared-off tail. Key design elements include the appearance of a "floating" roof thanks to black pillars, LED signature lights and a prominent new interpretation of Nissan's "double-V" grille.

Standard safety features

- 10 air bags
- High beam assist
- Lane departure alert
- Blind spot alert
- Rear cross traffic alert
- Automatic front braking with pedestrian detection
- Rear automatic braking

How much?

Prices for the 2021 Rogue start at $25,650 for a base front-wheel-drive model. All-wheel-drive Rogues start at $27,050. The top model, the all-wheel-drive Platinum I drove, was lavishly equipped and stickered at $36,830.

Across the model line, Rogues offer good value versus competitors like the RAV4 and CR-V. All prices exclude destination charges.

Standard features on 2021 Nissan Rogue Platinum:

Wireless charging
19-inch wheels
Apple CarPlay
Android Auto
ProPilot Assist
Navi-Link
Navigation
9-inch touch screen
Three-zone climate control
Semi-aniline leather diamond-quilted upholstery
Panoramic sunroof Power front seats
Memory for driver settings
360-degree cameras
Motion-sensing power tailgate
10.8-inch head up display
Bose audio

Under the Hood: Some parting advice

By BRAD BERGHOLDT
Tribune News Service

Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him email at bradbergholdt@gmail.com; he cannot make personal replies.

I apologize for missing a few weeks of columns. On August 20, I lost my home, shop, boats, project vehicles _ basically, everything _ to the CZU Lightning Complex fire in California's Santa Cruz Mountains. My wife and I were in Alaska, which is probably a good thing, as I would have been one of those renegades who stayed to the end with fire hose in hand, as there were zero fire trucks to be found. Based on reports of how ferociously the fire advanced, it likely wouldn't have ended well.

My time has been consumed with issues such as finding a place to reside, acquiring essentials, creating endless lists of personal property, negotiations with the insurance company, coordinating with the EPA for hazardous cleanup, and doing what I can to keep the surviving part of my orchard and berry patch alive.

After 28 years of receiving questions and doing what I could to write helpful answers, I'm thinking that, due to time constraints, it's best if I hang up my keyboard and perhaps just review a few interesting vehicles on an occasional basis.

What intrigues me most about vehicles these days is how well the amazing new technology gets along with the human behind the wheel ... or not. Don't get me started on how awful the GM navigation interface is in our Denali! The thought of these folks someday steering us safely through the real world is frightening! I don't feel right about rushing out answers without spending time researching, consulting others and doing the right things for the best possible reply.

I started out doing this by writing a letter to the automotive editor at my local paper, critical of the somewhat shallow answers from the gent that was writing the auto advice column at the time. To my surprise, the editor responded, telling me he was retiring, and if I knew so much about this, perhaps I could send in some sample Q&As. I did so and, surprisingly enough, was offered the position.

My reward has always been when I'd receive a follow up message saying my advice worked and the tough-to-fix problem was resolved! I've also met and enjoyed many talented folks who have helped me deliver a viable answer. And I've made friends with more than a few readers, such as Dianne, a local. My students quickly nailed a tricky electrical problem that had baffled her dealer over many visits!

Times have sure changed. What was once a mechanical world, with questions about packing wheel bearings and why replacing struts requires an alignment, evolved into pulling codes, viewing the misfire monitor or checking for an applicable reflash. It takes some of the fun out of it when almost every issue requires the use of a scan tool, and renewing the cabin air filter is one of the few remaining easy DIY projects.

So, some parting advice:

When it comes to buying and living with all this technology, I'm not as fearful of the electronic gadgets as I am some of the mechanical ones, when it comes to possible issues down the road. The really complex powertrains are magnificent to drive, but I don't think I'd want to own them much beyond 100,000 miles. I'm thinking take the hit on depreciation and trade up not long after the powertrain warranty expires.

Seeking service for a tricky or intermittent problem requires the very best communication possible. I recommend a smart phone movie of symptoms, sounds and instruments, along with the most detailed possible compilation of when, where and how the fault surfaces, as well as road testing with the technician.

And always keep up on maintenance; be tuned in to small problems before they turn ugly. Change fluids and filters on a timely basis. Be proactive with belt and hose replacements. If well cared for, a modern car or truck can be very reliable. It's the neglected ones that seem to have the most trouble.

Happy motoring, my friends!

Life & Style

ABBA's Björn Ulvaeus pens support for Day of the Girl Child

LONDON (AP)—ABBA's Björn Ulvaeus grew up in at a time when his education was valued more than his sister's, and he wants it to be different for girls around the world.

That's the approach he took with his daughters, drawing inspiration from the women in his life.

"I've been surrounded by women, strong women for a long time," Ulvaeus said, speaking about the need to empower female voices ahead of Sunday's International Day of the Girl Child.

The day "it should be a cause for celebration, but the sad thing is that this girl child deserves so much more than the old men who rule the world are prepared to give her," Ulvaeus wrote in a piece to support the day that he first shared with The Associated Press.

The piece begins: "Take a look at the old men who rule the world. With few exceptions their powers rest on cultures, religions and ideologies that suppress women."

Ulvaeus said he was inspired to write about the need to support International Day of the Girl Child.

In 2011, the United Nations declared Oct. 11 as the International Day of the Girl Child to promote girls' rights and address the challenges girls face around the world.

In his piece, Ulvaeus writes about how these powerful men are "afraid of the girl child" because "she represents a threat to their power like none other."

"You could see it with Greta Thunberg," he told the AP, speaking about the teenage Swedish climate change activist. "They got so ridiculously mad and irritated and, you know. And it is because the girl child is such a strong symbol for equality, for a better world, but a world where they wouldn't exist."

Ulvaeus said growing up, his father "thought it was more important that I got an education than my sister" and then started his early career in an all-male group, The Hootenanny Singers. But he says he was always "very inquisitive and very skeptical and honest."

"There's nothing really that says that men and women should have these roles that we read about. Early on, I could see through that. And I could see there's no good reason," he said of his viewpoint shift he had when he was about 30. "So I think that's why and when I became more or less a feminist without even saying it that at the time."

On his later career he explains, "Most of the projects I've done, like 'Mamma Mia,' have been, you know basically, female projects with me in it."

And for his three daughters, there have always been strong female influences.

"They never knew of any other future than an equal one because they could see it at home. They could see it close up. Agnetha (Fältskog) was an extremely strong woman who I was married to first in ABBA. And my present wife, Lena, since, many, many years back, she's also very strong."

And when it comes to his six granddaughters and the next generation of young girls, he has some optimism.

"For them as human beings, I'm very optimistic because they are very open. They are not afraid of saying what they feel."

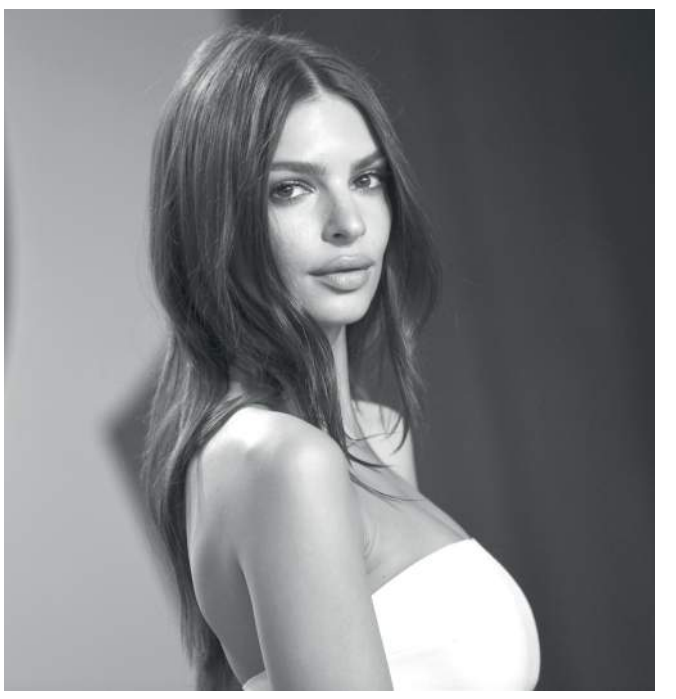
Emily Ratajkowski is working on book of essays, 'My Body'

NEW YORK (AP)—Model and activist Emily Ratajkowski has a book deal. "EmRata," as her millions of online followers know her, is working on an essay collection called "My Body." Metropolitan Books will published it in 2022.

According to Metropolitan, an imprint of Henry Holt and Company, Ratajkowski will explore "what it means to be a woman and a commodity," how men treat women and why women permit it.

"Emily Ratajkowski reveals herself to be devastatingly honest, nuanced, and strong—I'm not surprised that she thinks of herself first as a writer," Metropolitan editor Sara Bershtel said in a statement Friday. "I also admire how outspoken she is, how political, and how unafraid – what force she'll be!"

Ratajkowski first rose to international attention through her starring role in the "Blurred Lines" music video, in which she appeared alongside singer Robin Thicke. She is an entrepreneur and activist who has supported Bernie Sanders' two presidential campaigns and designed dresses for which part of the proceeds are given to Planned Parenthood.



(PHOTO BY EVAN AGOSTINI/INVISION/AP, FILE)

Model Emily Ratajkowski arrives at the Vanity Fair Oscar Party in Beverly Hills, Calif., on Feb. 9, 2020. The British model and activist has a book deal. She is working on an essay collection called "My Body." Metropolitan Books will publish it in 2022.

New Bosnian film on Srebrenica screened at place of massacre

SREBRENICA, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP)—After premiering her latest feature at the Venice Film Festival last month and sending it off to the international festival circuit, acclaimed Bosnian filmmaker Jasmila Zbanic returned home to Bosnia to host what she described as the film's "most emotional" screening.

Zbanic's film on the 1995 massacre in Srebrenica—"Quo Vadis, Aida?"—had its first public showing in Bosnia on Saturday in the memorial center in the ill-fated town for the more than 8,000 Muslim men and boys slaughtered there a quarter century ago.

Based on true events, the film tells the story of a Bosnian woman, Aida, who tries to save her husband and sons while working for the United Nations as a translator.

The event was attended by massacre survivors and witnesses, but also by young men and women whom Zbanic had invited from across the ethnically and politically divided country.

Among those in the audience was Almasa Sekovic, 34, who witnessed her teenage brother being taken away for execution. She said the film brought back the "smells and sounds" of Srebrenica in July 1995.

"I think it is very important that as many people as possible see this film," she said.

The Srebrenica massacre was the culmination of Bosnia's 1992-95 war, which pitted the country's three main ethnic factions—Serbs, Croats and Bosnian Muslims, known as Bosniaks—against each other after the break-up of Yugoslavia.

It was also a mark of shame for the international community because Srebrenica had been declared a U.N. "safe haven" for civilians, but the outnumbered, outgunned international peacekeepers could only watch on as the Bosnian Serb troops separated the town's men and boys for execution.

Two and a half decades later, the slaughter—defined as genocide by two United Nations courts—is still being systematically denied by Serb political leaders despite irrefutable evidence of what happened.

Zbanic spent 10 years on research, speaking to massacre survivors and witnesses. Still, the persistent ethnic divisions in Bosnia turned making a film "about a woman who is trying to save her family from death" into an experience akin to "walking through a political minefield," she said.

"But I told the story from a female perspective. I was not seduced by the spectacle of war," Zbanic said.

Man contemplates adopting the stepdaughter he adores

DEAR ABBY: I am thinking about asking my stepdaughter "Gwen" (37 years old with a husband and three kids) if she would like me to adopt her. I married her mother when Gwen was 2. We divorced when she was 8 or 9, so we were out of contact for about 25 years.

Gwen really dislikes her father. Her mother and I have patched things up, so much so that we've been on a couple of vacations together. Gwen has been along on both.

We have a special bond that goes back to the first time I met her. She was a terror, and her mother, grandmother and the rest of the family had basically given up on her. But we clicked. I was patient with her, and we became close. When we were together a few weeks ago on vacation, she asked if I wanted to come to Colorado, which is halfway across the country from where I live, for her daughter's 3rd birthday party. I'm going.

I love her dearly and always have. I missed her terribly during the years her mother and I barely communicated. I was able to see my kids, but not her. Now I feel that closeness again, and I want to officially adopt her as I should have back when she was 2. What do you think, Abby?

LOVING HER IN LOUISIANA

DEAR LOVING HER: Do not make such an important decision on impulse. Be prudent and let this renewed relationship with your ex and her daughter play out a while longer before making any decisions. Then, if you still feel the same, talk to your ex about what you have in mind. If she reacts positively, discuss it with Gwen. But I urge you to use caution because your ex may consider herself and her daughter to be a package deal and expect you to "adopt" her, too. It goes without saying that this should be discussed with your lawyer because the fact that Gwen still has a father may complicate matters.

DEAR ABBY: The sisters in my family are very close. Today we live independently and alone in different cities. After we retire, three of the four of us plan to live together in a new location. Our dilemma: The fourth sister marches to a different drummer.

Our lifestyles are very different -- completely opposite, in fact. We love her and enjoy being with her at family gatherings and doing things together. Yet we feel strongly that because she has little initiative and a "dependent" personality, she shouldn't live with us, so we haven't included her in our plans.

We know the news will upset her, and we don't want to cause hurt feelings, but we feel strongly about this. We have tried to figure out how we could make it work, but always end up knowing it won't. The only option we can think of would be that she could move to wherever we are and find a place of her own, but we're not sure she has the means to make it happen. Can you help us figure out the most compassionate way to share the news with her?

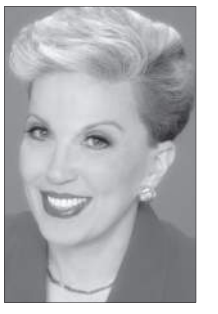
FORWARD THINKING

DEAR FORWARD THINKING: The most compassionate way to venture into this minefield would be to ask your sister what her plans are once she retires. If she says she plans to live with you, she should be told it won't happen and why, so she can make other arrangements for herself. While the conversation may not be pleasant, it is necessary, and it should take place sooner rather than later.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

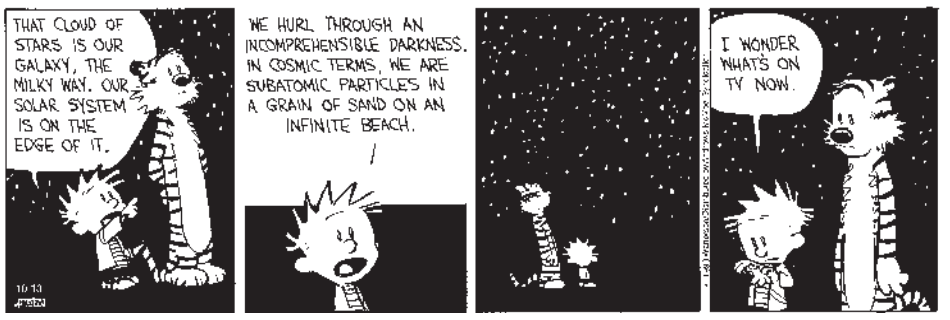


Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

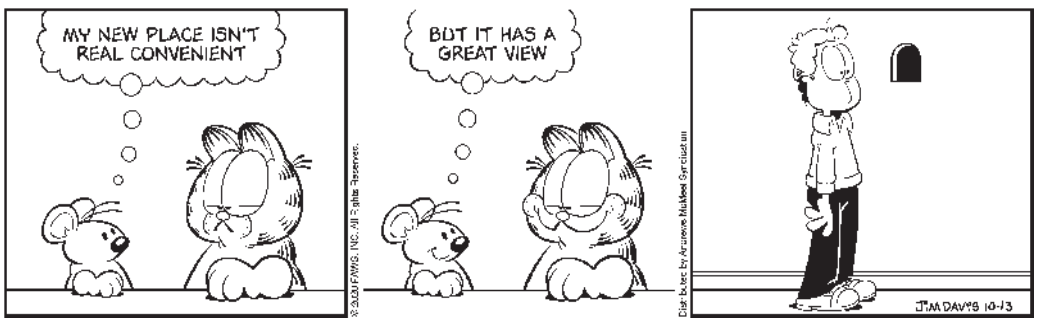
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


THAT CLOUD OF STARS IS OUR GALAXY, THE MILKY WAY. OUR SOLAR SYSTEM IS ON THE EDGE OF IT.
WE HURL THROUGH AN INCOMPREHENSIBLE DARKNESS. IN COSMIC TERMS, WE ARE SUBATOMIC PARTICLES IN A GRAIN OF SAND ON AN INFINITE BEACH.
I WONDER WHAT'S ON TV NOW.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

ADAM, YOU LOVE COFFEE.
REALLY?? IT'S JUST... YECCH.
WELL, THE DOCTOR SAID YOU'LL BE "YOU" AGAIN SOON. MAYBE A NAP WOULD HELP?
NAH. BUT I THINK I'LL GO FOR A RUN.
WHO ARE YOU??
10-13

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Uppity sort
5 Standard
9 Make lace
12 Off-white
13 Bailiwick
14 Calendar abbr.
15 Light-headed feeling
17 Potentially will
18 Speed
19 Emmy-winning Sally Field role
21 "Peer Gynt" playwright
24 Loading zone
25 Brief moments
26 Hound sounds
30 Sports fig.
31 Tender spots
32 White wine cocktail
33 Winter outerwear
35 Demolish, in Dover
36 Rowboat needs
37 Fly-catching bird
38 Island south of Sicily
40 Conked out
42 Cleric's tunic
43 Ground-hog
48 Disco guy on "The Simpsons"
49 Unrivaled
50 Shrek, e.g.
51 Decks in the ring
52 The Mets' old home
53 Hoodlum

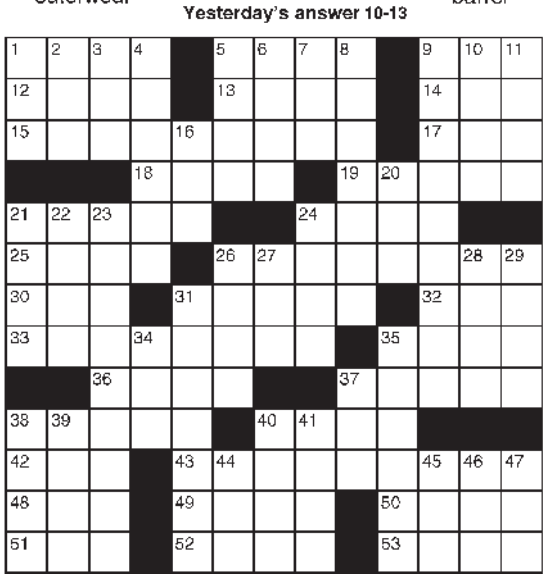
DOWN

1 Stitch
2 Sgt., for one
3 Acapulco gold
4 Makes a beelike sound
5 iPod type
6 Utah city
7 Scale members
8 Mountain clusters
9 Legendary NBC news anchor
10 Exotic berry
11 Texter's sign-off
16 Charged bit
20 Evergreen type
21 Caesar's "vidi"
22 Politico O'Rourke
23 Student's transport
24 Bard
26 Courts
27 — pro nobis
28 French river
29 Gratis
31 Writes illegibly
34 Long. crosser
35 Very popular
37 Chest muscle
38 Pandemic cover-up
39 Choir voice
40 Finito
41 Notion
44 Reaction to an air show
45 "Gross!"
46 French vineyard
47 Beer barrel

Solution time: 22 mins.

M	B	A	S	■	T	I	E	■	P	L	U	M
A	C	R	O	B	I	C	S	■	■	O	T	A
R	E	F	E	R	E	E	S	■	C	T	A	T
■	■	■	A	I	P	■	E	A	R	T	H	A
T	E	A	S	E	■	C	N	B	C	■	■	■
I	G	G	Y	■	D	E	C	R	E	E	S	■
N	A	E	■	W	E	R	E	A	■	L	A	W
■	D	E	G	R	E	E	S	■	G	E	N	E
■	■	■	R	E	F	S	■	V	O	C	A	B
P	O	L	A	N	D	■	I	O	U	■	■	■
A	R	A	B	■	O	A	K	T	R	E	E	S
P	A	I	L	■	W	H	E	E	U	L	E	S
A	N	I	E	■	N	I	A	■	S	I	L	I

Yesterday's answer 10-13



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Caleb McCaughlin, 19; Kate Walsh, 53; Hiro Kanagawa, 57; Marie Osmond, 61.

Happy Birthday: Tie up loose ends. Get rid of clutter, and prepare for new beginnings. A change of scenery will spark your creative imagination. Think big, but don't exceed your budget. Hesitation will lead to regret and uncertainty. Know what you want, and be honest with those who will be affected by the decisions you make. A financial gain looks promising. Your numbers are 3, 9, 20, 27, 33, 39, 49.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Learn, explore and research. The better prepared you are, the less aggravated you will become. Stay calm, and focus on what you want to accomplish. Don't take offense if someone is difficult. Keep the peace, and go about your business. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Make a change that will give you the boost you need to try something new. Discuss your intentions with someone close to you, and it will help give you a different perspective on life, love and the meaning of success. ✪✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Think twice before you get involved in someone's business. Protect your reputation, stick to your principles and avoid compromising situations. Take care of personal problems and responsibilities, and let others fend for themselves. Avoid gossip. ✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Make fitness and health priorities. Fix up your space to fit your current lifestyle. Let others know your intentions, and share your thoughts and feelings. Spend quality time with someone special. Love is on the rise, and romance will enhance your life. ✪✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Take time to do your own thing. Don't let generosity put you in a difficult position. You cannot buy love, respect or loyalty. If someone uses you, know enough to walk away. Concentrate on self-improvement and personal gains. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Embrace change and what life has to offer. Be part of the solution, not the problem. Set high standards, and express your opinions. Follow your heart, and don't back down from adversity. Enjoy life, show love and strive for happiness and peace of mind. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Frustration and anger won't help you solve problems or get ahead. Expand your mind, restructure your plans and distance yourself from situations that are holding you back. Make your position clear, and put the past behind you. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* A last-minute change will favor you. Your patience, consistency and honesty will encourage others to support your efforts. Don't give up or give in. Pursue your goals. Clear up an emotional situation with an honest discussion. Romance is favored. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Keep your thoughts to yourself, and focus on your responsibilities. Leave nothing to chance or in someone else's hands. A change at home or work will have pros and cons. A moderate approach and a tight budget will help you stay on track. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Discuss your intentions before you start. The suggestions you receive will have an impact on the way you proceed. A joint venture and a financial gain look promising. Aim to make personal improvements, and choose peace and love over discord. ✪✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Keep your money and possessions out of sight. Expect an added expense due to someone else. An intelligent approach will be more effective than getting into a dispute over something that has already happened. Choose your words wisely. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Stand your ground, and get things done. The changes you suggest will draw attention as well as encourage exciting offers. Expect a financial change, gift or proposal to come your way. Prepare to commit. Celebrate with someone you love. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are powerful, determined and secretive. You are inventive and tenacious.

Visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	5		2					
8	6			9	5	7		
				6			4	
6				1	9		2	
	4	9				8	5	
	2		8	3				6
	9			2				
		4	3	5			6	1
					6		8	

Difficulty Level ★★ 10/13

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

3	9	2	6	7	4	1	5	8
1	7	4	8	5	3	6	9	2
6	5	8	1	9	2	4	7	3
8	6	7	3	4	1	5	2	9
4	3	9	5	2	8	7	6	1
5	2	1	7	6	9	3	8	4
7	1	3	2	8	6	9	4	5
2	4	5	9	3	7	8	1	6
9	8	6	4	1	5	2	3	7

Difficulty Level ★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

FRACTURE CLINICS — Solution: 9 letters

S	S	E	R	P	M	O	C	L	A	V	I	C	L	E
C	I	E	M	A	A	I	R	E	D	L	U	O	H	S
R	S	S	S	I	I	S	C	A	P	U	L	A	R	R
E	E	Y	O	N	B	Y	A	R	T	O	O	F	E	E
W	D	N	A	H	I	H	R	O	T	S	A	C	D	V
E	O	B	A	R	T	P	E	G	T	T	L	F	U	S
U	K	N	I	L	X	R	S	E	C	A	I	L	C	N
S	N	A	S	A	L	P	O	A	C	B	N	E	E	A
S	E	S	T	F	I	P	P	I	U	A	E	Ⓑ	Ⓘ	Ⓡ
I	N	N	U	N	O	M	V	L	R	E	A	B	S	T
T	O	N	A	R	I	R	A	S	E	S	R	U	N	R
T	B	L	O	I	E	C	E	N	C	E	R	I	O	O
F	P	S	Y	C	L	M	K	A	A	C	O	L	L	F
O	I	L	L	U	K	S	U	K	R	J	L	D	I	E
S	H	G	N	I	L	A	E	H	B	M	E	S	P	L

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Brace, Break, Builds, Care, Cast, Cervical, Clavicle, Compress, Crus, Fibula, Foot, Forearm, Hand, Healing, Hip Bone, Humerus, Impact, Intake, Joint, Knee, Le Fort, Linear, Link, Nails, Nasal, Nurses, Orthosis, Osteoporosis, Pain, Physio, Pilon, Pins, Rabo, Reduce, Rib, Role, Scapular, Screw, Shoulder, Skull, Soft Tissue, Spinal, Tibia, Toe, Transverse, Ulnar, X-rays

Yesterday's Answer: Chervil

To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volumes 47 through 60 order online at: www.WonderWordBooks.com.

Nadal dominates Djokovic to tie Federer record

PARIS (AP)—All the years of work, all the many wins, led to this moment, with Rafael Nadal preparing to serve against Novak Djokovic, one point from a 13th French Open championship, one point from a 20th Grand Slam trophy to tie Roger Federer's record for men.

Nadal swept his right foot along the baseline, clearing away the red dust as he has so many times before. He rapped his shoes' soles with his racket—right, then left, then right again. He discarded one tennis ball behind him, another in the pocket of his blue shorts.

And then, finally ready to proceed, Nadal delivered an ace at 106 mph to cap a flawless performance and a surprisingly lopsided 6-0, 6-2, 7-5 victory over the No. 1-ranked Djokovic. Nadal dropped to his knees, smiling broadly, and pumped his arms.

Neither Djokovic, on this day, nor Federer, over the course of time, ever truly stood a chance of resisting the relentless Nadal.

"He keeps going. No holding him back, it seems like. It's amazing. I mean, I admire all his achievements, especially the one here," said Djokovic, who had won his last five Grand Slam finals.

"There's not much you can say," Djokovic said. "All the superlatives that you can use, he deserves them."

It's the fourth time the No. 2-ranked Nadal won his favorite tournament without ceding a set and made his career mark at the French Open 100-2.

No, that is not a typo.

The 34-year-old left-hander from Spain has won his favorite event four straight times, following previous streaks of four from 2005-08, then five from 2010-14. Those go alongside four triumphs at the U.S. Open, two at Wimbledon and one at the Australian Open.

AP

Spain's Rafael Nadal plays a shot against Serbia's Novak Djokovic in the final match of the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris, France, Sunday, Oct. 11, 2020.

Nadal made clear that while he never has been consumed with the idea of catching Federer, he can appreciate the accomplishment's significance.

"I would love to finish my career being the player with more Grand Slams. No doubt about that, no? But on the other hand, I say, 'OK, I have to do (it) my way. ... I'm not going to be thinking all the time, 'Novak (has) this one, Roger is winning the other one.' You can't be always unhappy because your neighbors have a bigger house than you or a bigger boat or have a better phone," Nadal said.

"In terms of these records, of course I care. I am a big fan of the history of sport, in general. I respect, a lot, that," he continued. "For me, (it) means a lot to share this number with Roger, no?"

Federer, 39, sat out the U.S. Open and French Open after two knee operations. He posted a congratulatory message on Instagram on Sunday.

"As my greatest rival over many years, I believe we have pushed each other to become better players," Federer wrote, and ended with: "I hope 20 is just another step on the continuing journey for both of us. Well done, Rafa. You deserve it."

Djokovic's loss, meanwhile, left him at 17 majors; had he won, the standings would have read 20-19-18.

No other man has more than 14.

This was the 56th installment of Nadal vs. Djokovic, the most between men in the professional era. Djokovic is ahead 29-27 now, including his 6-3, 6-2, 6-3 win at the 2019 Australian Open final.

"In Australia, he killed me. ... Today was for me," Nadal said.

The key statistic Sunday: Nadal limited himself to 14 unforced errors, impressive against anyone, but especially someone the caliber of Djokovic, who accumulated 52.

"He's phenomenal," Djokovic said. "He played a perfect match, especially in the first two sets."

The first set was a 45-minute master class conducted by Nadal, who came out incredibly crisply and cleanly, steering his high-rpm forehands precisely where he wanted them and using his defense-to-offense abilities to slide and stretch and flick balls back with aggression.

"I played at my highest level when I needed to play at my highest level," Nadal said.

Appearing resigned, Djokovic was less volatile than he often is when he struggles—such as the post-point whack of a ball that inadvertently hit a line judge at the U.S. Open last month, earning a disqualification, his only other loss in 39 matches this season.

Instead, Djokovic puffed his cheeks or rolled his eyes, exasperated with himself, perhaps, but also unable to figure out how to counter what came from the other side of the net. After one exchange, he put up his palms, as if to ask, "What can I do here?"

It was only the fourth 6-0 set lost by Djokovic in 341 career Grand Slam matches. As he sat in his sideline seat digesting that shutout, four Djokovic supporters in blue jerseys and white baseball hats stood and sang in the stands, their chorus drowning out the light pitter-patter of drizzle hitting the retractable roof.

Raiders stun Chiefs; Prescott injured badly

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—Derek Carr threw for 347 yards and three touchdowns, outplaying Super Bowl MVP Patrick Mahomes along the way, and the Las Vegas Raiders nearly shut out the potent Kansas City offense in the second half to rally for a 40-32 victory Sunday that ended the Chiefs' franchise-record 13-game winning streak.

The Chiefs had won seven in a row over their longtime rival at Arrowhead Stadium, where Carr had been especially bad in losing each of his six starts. But he was simply spectacular with a relatively quiet 17,000 fans in the building, helping to guide the Raiders to their first win in Kansas City since Oct. 28, 2012.

Mahomes spent the entire game trying to escape the Las Vegas pass rush, which manhandled the Chiefs offensive line. He finished with 340 yards passing and two touchdowns, along with an interception.

Cowboys 37, Giants 34

Greg Zuerlein kicked a game-winning field goal from 34 yards out on the final play as Dallas defeated the New York Giants at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas, in a game that was overshadowed by an ugly ankle injury suffered by Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott.

Midway through the third quarter, Prescott gained 9 yards on a run and was tackled by New York safety Logan Ryan. Prescott immediately clutched his lower right leg. After he was put in a cast, Prescott appeared to be crying as he was carted off the field. He was transported to an area hospital and ESPN later reported that Prescott was expected to undergo surgery Sunday night.

Seahawks 27, Vikings 26

Russell Wilson capped a 94-yard drive with a 6-yard touchdown pass to DK Metcalf on fourth-and-goal with 15 seconds left, and Seattle beat Minnesota.

Seattle improved to 5-0 for the first time in franchise history with Wilson providing some more prime-time magic and yet another late comeback.

Dolphins 43, 49ers 17

Ryan Fitzpatrick threw for 350 yards and three touchdowns and Miami sent defending NFC champion San Francisco to its third straight home loss to open the season.

Fitzpatrick connected on a 3-yard TD pass to Adam Shaheen on the opening drive of the game for the Dolphins (2-3) and didn't let up, quieting talk for at least another week that rookie Tua Tagovailoa should take over as starter.

Panthers 23, Falcons 16

Teddy Bridgewater threw for 313 yards and two touchdowns, Juston Burris made a huge interception in the end zone and Carolina held on for a victory over winless Atlanta, finishing off the coaching career of Atlanta's Dan Quinn.

The Falcons dropped to 0-5 for the first time since 1997, turning up the heat even more on their embattled coach. The team fired Quinn and general manager Thomas Dimitroff.

Rams 30, Washington 10

Jared Goff threw for 309 yards and two touchdowns and ran for another, and Los Angeles improved to 4-1 by beating Washington in Alex Smith's return almost two years since a gruesome injury put his career in jeopardy.

Smith played his first NFL game 693 days since breaking his right tibia and fibula, entering when new Washington starting quarterback Kyle Allen injured his left arm. He was 9 of 17 for 37 yards on the same field he was carted off of on Nov. 18, 2018, before undergoing 17 surgeries to repair the injury.

Ravens 27, Bengals 3

The Baltimore Ravens sacked Joe Burrow seven times, forced the Bengals rookie into a pair of turnovers and effectively stuffed Cincinnati's running game in a meticulous victory.

Baltimore stout defensive performance was punctuated by Patrick Queen's 52-yard fumble return in the fourth quarter. It was the first NFL touchdown for Queen, who played with Burrow last year for national champion LSU.

Texans 30, Jaguars 14

Deshaun Watson threw for a season-high 359 yards and three touchdowns and Houston got its first win of the season with a victory over Jacksonville in the wake of coach Bill O'Brien's firing.

O'Brienwas let go on Monday after the Texans fell to 0-4 last weekend. Romeo Crennel was named interim coach.

Rays take ALDS opener, nip Astros

SAN DIEGO (AP)—Randy Arozarena homered again at Petco Park and Mike Zunino drove in the go-ahead run for the Tampa Bay Rays, who beat the Houston Astros 2-1 Sunday night in the opener of the AL Championship Series.

Blake Snell allowed José Altuve's homer as he labored through the first inning on 29 pitches before the 2018 AL Cy Young Award winner settled down to pitch five innings for the win.

Diego Castillo got five outs for the save. He came on with the bases-loaded with one out in the eighth and got out of it with one pitch when Yuli Gurriel grounded into a double play. Aaron Loup had loaded the bases on a hit batter, walk and single.

Castillo threw 29 pitches in two innings Friday night in the 2-1 win against the New York Yankees that clinched the AL Division Series.

"I was going to be ready," he said through a translator. "I knew with the day off yesterday, I came to the stadium prepared. I just came ready to pitch."

Tampa has leaned on its bullpen all season.

"I think the job he did sums up his whole year," said Zunino, the catcher. "He stepped up big for us. He's been throwing a lot in big situations for us. We had an idea who we might be able to go to, but him coming in there showing what he's made out of says a lot about what those guys in the bullpen have done for us all year."

Game 2 is Monday afternoon when the Rays turn to 36-year-old Charlie Morton, who got the win for Houston in Game 7 when it won the 2017 World Series. Houston counters with Lance McCullers Jr., who started that Game 7 for the Astros.

Houston, which got into the playoffs with a losing record, is in the ALCS for the fourth straight season and is trying to advance to the World Series for the third time in that span.

AP

Tampa Bay Rays Kevin Kiermaier hits a double during the second inning in Game 1 of the American League Championship Series against the Houston Astros, Sunday, Oct. 11, 2020, in San Diego.

The Astros are villains in many people's eyes for their sign-stealing scandal three years ago, when they beat the Los Angeles Dodgers in the World Series. They also remain unapologetic.

Tampa Bay is trying to reach its second World Series after losing to the Philadelphia Phillies in 2008.

"They've got a lot of weapons over there where they can mix and match, and we tried to keep the right-handed side of their lineup in there tonight, which we did," Astros manager Dusty Baker said. "Everything went according to plan tonight, other than winning the game."

Zunino singled past diving shortstop Carlos Correa to bring in Willy Adames with the go-ahead run with two outs in the fifth off lefty Framber Valdéz. Adames reached on a leadoff walk and advanced on consecutive ground outs to Valdéz.

Arozarena continued his breakout postseason with his fourth homer in six games, sending a 1-2 pitch from Valdez to center field with one out in the fourth to tie it at 1. He homered in each of the first three games of the AL Division Series against the New York Yankees, also in San Diego.

Nicknamed "The Cuban Rocket," Arozarena defected to Mexico in 2015 and signed as a free agent with the St. Louis Cardinals in 2016. He made his big league debut last year and was traded to the Rays in the offseason.

He tested positive for COVID-19 during intake testing prior to summer camp and didn't make his 2020 season debut until Aug. 30.

The only Rays with more homers in a postseason are Melvin Upton Jr. with seven and Evan Longoria six, both in 2008.

Altuve homered in his third straight game, driving a 2-1 pitch from Snell to left with one out in the first.

Snell allowed one run and six hits, struck out two and walked two.

BUBBLE

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Gianna and seven other died in a helicopter crash.

The Lakers said they were playing the rest of the season in his memory.

They delivered what Bryant did five times for L.A.— a ring, and the clincher was emphatic.

"You have written your own inspiring chapter in the great Laker history," Lakers owner Jeanie Buss said. "And to Laker Nation, we have been through a heartbreaking tragedy with the loss of our beloved Kobe Bryant. Let this trophy serve as a reminder of when we come together, believe in each other, incredible things can happen."

Game 6 was over by halftime, the Lakers taking a 64-36 lead into the break. The Heat never led and couldn't shoot from anywhere: 35% from 2-point range in the half, 33% from 3-point range and even an uncharacteristic 42% from the line, not like any of it really mattered. The Lakers were getting everything they wanted and then some, outscoring Miami 36-16 in the second quarter and doing all that with James making just one shot in the period.

Rondo, now a two-time champion and the first to win NBA rings as a player in the cities of Boston and Los Angeles—the franchises now tied with 17 titles apiece — was 6 for 6 in the half, the first time he'd done that since November 2007. The Lakers' lead was 46-32 with 5:00 left in the half, and they outscored Miami 18-4 from there until intermission.

Ball game. The 28-point halftime lead was the second-biggest in NBA Finals history, topped only by the Celtics leading the Lakers 79-49 on May 27, 1985.

"We didn't get the final result that we wanted," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "But even what I mentioned to the guys, these are going to be lifetime memories that we have together. This locker room ... we're going to remember this year, this season, this experience and that locker room brotherhood for the rest of our lives."

LEBRON

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every word scrutinized and often criticized.

James has become the epitome of the independent superstar athlete, something many try to be but few even have a chance of pulling off. He does whatever he wants, whenever he wants, however he wants and makes it work. Bill Russell will forever have more rings and Michael Jordan will forever be the choice of many as the NBA's greatest player. And that's OK with James, who has forged his own path.

"The game of basketball will pass me by," James said as the title loomed. "There will be a new group of young kids and vets and rookies throughout the course of this game. So, I can't worry about that as far as on the floor. How I move, how I walk, what I preach, what I talk about, how I inspire the next generation is what matters to me the most."

He's never forgotten that he was once a broke kid from Akron, Ohio. If he's not a billionaire yet, he's trending that way. He's on a Wheaties box now, saying its unveiling last week was "one of the best moments of my life." He founded a school and stays involved with matters there. He's actively trying to get more people, particularly Black people, to vote than ever before.

"I just hope I make my guys proud and that's all that mattered to me," James said. "I make my guys proud, make the fan base proud, my family back home, I can't wait to get back home to them. Akron, Ohio, we did it again—and that's what it's all about."

Oh, if that wasn't enough, he delivered a championship to a Lakers franchise that went 10 years without one and did so in a year when they needed it most, letting them cry tears of joy after all the tears of anguish that followed the death of Kobe Bryant in a helicopter crash in January.

"I think it's remarkable what LeBron is still doing at his age," Denver coach Michael Malone said of James. "The minutes he's playing, how effective he is on both ends of the floor, and the impact he has on both ends of the floor, his will to win is just incredible."

The 35-year-old James finished this postseason with 580 points; no one at his age had ever done that. He had 184 assists; no one at his age had ever done that. If he's slowing down, he's not showing it; he had 32 points in his first playoff game 14 years ago, he exceeded that six times in this postseason run.

"He's shown why he is the player that he is, why he's had the career and the legacy that he's continually building," Miami's Jimmy Butler said.

James is 4,148 points behind Kareem Abdul-Jabbar for the regular-season scoring lead, meaning he'll have to play at least two more full seasons to reach that mark. Sunday was his 260th career playoff appearance, passing Derek Fisher for the all-time record. He was All-NBA for the 16th time this season, a record. He started his 16th consecutive All-Star Game this season, yet another record. More fans picked him as MVP this season than Giannis Antetokounmpo, who won the award.

There's nothing left to prove on the basketball court.

Butler's memorable run ends in Game 6

FLORIDA (AP)—Jimmy Butler finally has to take his business elsewhere.

There will be no more coffee customers with the bubble closing down, though he kept it open far longer than expected with some of the most inspired NBA Finals play seen in years.

Butler carried the Miami Heat all the way to Game 6 against the favored Los Angeles Lakers but the weight of his efforts seemed to leave him with little energy Sunday. He struggled to initiate the offense, was caught flat-footed on defense and was helpless along with his teammates to stop a Los Angeles onslaught in the second quarter.

The Lakers capped off another championship with a 106-93 victory, a series that once seemed destined to be a sweep that Butler almost single-handedly extended two games longer than that.

"I wish I could've done it for the city, I wish I could've done it for my teammates," Butler said.

He became the first player with multiple triple-doubles of 35 or more points in an NBA Finals, and through five games was averaging 29.0 points, 10.2 assists, 8.6 rebounds and and 2.60 steals—statistics no player ever finished with in a finals.

AP

Miami Heat's Jimmy Butler (22) looks to pass against Los Angeles Lakers' Danny Green (14) and Alex Caruso (4) during the first half in Game 6 of the NBA Finals Sunday, Oct. 11, 2020, in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

He wasn't close to those numbers Sunday, finishing with 12 points on only 10 shots.

It was understandable after what Butler had to do just to get it this far.

There was a 40-point triple-double to win Game 3 with the Heat down 2-0, then 35 points, 12 rebounds, 11 assists, five steals and just 48 seconds of rest on Friday to help Miami put the Lakers' celebration on hold in Game 5.

New dates for CNMI-hosted Mini Games confirmed

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

SAIPAN TRIBUNE
The mural at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium will greet visitors of the Oleai Sports Complex, which will be the main headquarters for the 2022 Pacific Mini Games.

The CNMI government and Northern Marianas Sports Association's request to move the Pacific Mini Games 2022 has been granted.

In a press statement, Pacific Games Council chief executive officer Andrew Minogue said that the PGC and the 22 member-nations of the Pacific Games Association have agreed to the host's proposal to have the quadrennial event in 2022 instead of next year due to the uncertainties brought by the COVID-19 pandemic across the globe. The CNMI, through NMSA, has proposed to hold the Mini Games from June 17 to 25.

Originally, the Commonwealth scheduled the regional competition for June 2021, but the PGC asked the host island to consider a new date, possibly December 2021 after the Olympic Games in Tokyo was moved to next year due to the pandemic. Discussions were made to come up with the best possible dates and after looking into the school schedule (schools will be used as Athletes Village), accommodation, transportation, and other resources needed to hold the Games, the CNMI government and NMSA have arrived with the new calendar.

PGC president Vidhya Lakhan is pleased with the recent development, as the CNMI and their leaders honored their earlier commitment to the Mini Games.

"I wish to personally thank Gov. Ralph DLG Torres for his continued support for the CNMI in hosting their first-ever Pacific Mini Games in 2022, despite the economic and health challenges posed by the pandemic. The member Pacific Games Associations stand ready to support these Games in 2022 and we all wish the CNMI the best of luck as it deals with the challenges we are all facing at this time," Lakhan said.

Press secretary Kevin Bautista, on the other, said the Commonwealth acknowledged PGC for giving the islands time and consideration to work on the new schedule for the Mini Games.

"We are grateful for the partnership and consideration displayed by the Pacific Games Council and its president Vidhya Lakhan and CEO Andrew Minogue to defer the Mini Games to 2022. COVID-19 has shifted sports schedules around the world, so understandably, the Mini Games are going to be pushed back as well. Gov. Torres and Lt. Gov. Palacios have committed themselves to ensure the Mini Games are held here for the benefit of our local athletes and to invite the Pacific back to Saipan with our island hospitality for a week of camaraderie and achievement. We look forward to moving past this pandemic and continuing preparations to host the 2022 Mini Games," Bautista said.

NMSA, meanwhile, will continue to coordinate with PGC, the government, and various groups involved in the preparations for the CNMI's hosting of the Mini Games, according to executive director Carline Sablan. She added that the new schedule will give them more latitude to work on the Games' necessities, particularly the improvement of the facilities that were damaged by two super typhoons.

The 2022 Pacific Mini Games, which will have the Oleai Sports Complex as its main headquarters, is expected to bring nearly 2,000 athletes, officials, and guests to Saipan. Six sports (athletics, baseball, badminton, beach volleyball, golf, and triathlon) have been initially proposed for the Mini Games, but there might be discussions on adding a few more events for the regional competition.

Buco, Sublemente lead finishers list

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
From left, Saipan Unity Lions Club president Alice Barbo, Top 3 placers in the women's road bike category Marjorie Ganacias, J.C. Ferrer, and Vernice Ronda, and SULC director Boyet Escober pose for a photo during the awards ceremony.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Mountain bike division overall winner Butch Sublemente, center, is all smiles after receiving his prizes from Saipan Unity Lions Club officials.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Joel Buco celebrates his first place finish in the road bike category of last Sunday's Saipan Unity Lions Club 4th Annual Bike Race at Banzai Cliff.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

More than 100 riders completed the Saipan Unity Lions Club 4th Annual Bike Race with Joel Buco and Butch Sublemente topping the finishers list of last Sunday's event.

Buco was the overall first finisher in the long course, completing the nearly 64-kilometer race that started and ended at Banzai Cliff (four laps) with a turnaround point at Mobil Gas Station in Tanapag in a little over one and a half hour. He also prevailed in the road bike category of the event made more challenging by the rain, as organizers missed recording the official times of the finishers with riders' race numbers soaked in water.

Joining Buco in the Top 3 in the road bike division were Bob Ferrer and Mark Isip, while Sublemente ruled the mountain bike category, placing ahead of Noe Valdisimo and Pax Guevarra.

In the women's division, Bob's daughter, J.C. won the road bike long course race, while Marjorie Ganacios and Vernice Ronda came in at second and third, respectively.

In the age group categories (still in road bike long course), the top finishers were Arvin Velasco (below 40), Nap Dizon (40-44), Rusty Valino (45-49), Jojo Valencia (50-54), Robert Tamondong (55-59), Ogie Laxamana (over 60), and Sheila Isla (women's 40-44).

4th Annual SAIPAN UNITY LIONS CLUB Road/MTB Bike Race

In the MTB long course age group competitions, Charlie Sendin took the top honors in the 40 and below, Nathan Pagaduan triumphed in the 41-50, Noel Altamirano ruled the 51-55, and Floro Derexes won the over 56 division.

Meanwhile in the short course race (one lap), Ronald Bernardo, Michael Aparte, Julie Rose Felipe, and Mariel Panaligan lorded it over in their respective divisions.

Bernardo was the No.1 finisher in the road bike, beating Jonier Enriquez and Julius Mabutas, while Felipe led the Top 3 placers in the women's division, downing Rowena Houck and Yuki Rechucher.

In the MTB category, Michael Aparte, Raymond Tolentino, and Napoleon Solis were the podium finishers in the men's, while Panaligan, Mary Anne Enriquez and Xiuyun Hocog took the Top 3 honors in the women's side.

In the age group divisions (road bike), Keith Mendoza, Ferdz Licayen, Oscar Calage, and Angeles Alvarez won first place in the below 40, 41-55, 51-55, and 56 and above, respectively. In the MTB category, K.J. Villacrusis topped the below 40 age group, Angelo Nicolas prevailed in the 41-50, Ronald Alcantara excelled in the 51-55, and Edgar Garcia stood out in the 56 and above division.

Nadal dominates Djokovic to tie Federer record

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Sports

Rays take ALDS opener, nip Astros

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Bubble Kings: Lakers finish off Heat

AP

The Los Angeles Lakers players and coaches celebrate after they defeated the Miami Heat 103-88 in Game 6 of the NBA Finals Sunday, Oct. 11, 2020, in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

LeBron has done it again, and did it his way

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. (AP)—He went to Miami and became a champion.

He went back to Cleveland and won another title.

He went to Los Angeles and now the Lakers are back atop the basketball world.

LeBron James, love him or hate him, is in his own category now. He has led three franchises to NBA titles, something nobody has ever done. His legacy was complete long before Sunday night, when the Los Angeles Lakers became NBA champions for the 17th time by beating the Miami Heat and winning the title to cap a season like none other, in a bubble like none other.

But that legacy is just a bit shinier now.

"I guess, as Frank Sinatra would say, I did it my way," James said earlier in these playoffs.

That's not up for debate.

He's got four titles. He's a four-time NBA Finals MVP, the second to win that many. He's done it all with the NBA's biggest target on his back, with every action and

See LEBRON on Page 18

AP

Los Angeles Lakers' LeBron James (23) dunks during the first half in Game 6 of the NBA Finals against the Miami Heat Sunday, Oct. 11, 2020, in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

By TIM REYNOLDS
AP SPORT WRITER

FLORIDA(AP)—The ultimate anguish. The ultimate joy.

This season, for LeBron James and the Los Angeles Lakers, had it all. And it ended in the only fashion that they deemed would be acceptable, with them back atop the basketball world.

For the first time since Kobe Bryant's fifth and final title a decade ago, the Lakers are NBA champions. James had 28 points, 14 rebounds and 10 assists, and the Lakers beat the Miami Heat 106-93 on Sunday night to win the NBA Finals in six games.

"Our organization wants their respect. Laker Nation wants their respect," James said. "And I want my damn respect, too."

Anthony Davis had 19 points and 15 rebounds for the Lakers, who dealt with the enormous anguish that followed the death of the iconic Bryant in January and all the challenges that came with leaving home for three months to play at Walt Disney World in a bubble designed to keep inhabitants safe from the coronavirus.

It would be, James predicted, the toughest title to ever win.

"We have a Ph.D in adversity, I'll tell you that much," Lakers coach Frank Vogel said. "We've been through a lot."

They made the clincher look easy. James won his fourth title, doing it with a third different franchise—and against the Heat franchise that showed him to to become a champion.

Bam Adebayo had 25 points and 10 rebounds for Miami, which got 12 points from Jimmy Butler —the player who, in his first Heat season, got the team back to title contention. Rajon Rondo scored 19 points for the Lakers, who put together the elite talents of James and Davis with this moment in mind.

And Davis, as white and gold confetti coated the floor around him, spent his first moments as an NBA champion thinking of Bryant.

"All we wanted to do was do it for him," Davis said. "And we didn't let him down. ... I know he's looking down on us, proud of us."

With that, the league's bubble chapter, put together after a 4 1/2-month suspension of play that started March 11 because of the coronavirus pandemic and came with a promise that it would raise awareness to the problems of racial injustice and police brutality, is over. So, too, is a season that saw the league and China get into political sparring, the death on Jan. 1 of commissioner emeritus David Stern—the man who did so much to make the league what it is— and then the shock on Jan. 26 that came with the

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